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clash... Arsenal's John Hollins
tussles with Tottenham striker
Garth Crooks. Find out who are
the top dogs in London on Page
19.

MERSEYSIDE'S poor relations, Everton, go into Saturday's derby clash at Anfield desperately seeking revenge for their 5-0 drubbing at the hands of Liverpool earlier in the season.

Four months after the crushing defeat in front of their own fans, the 'Toffees' of Goodison are still smarting and doubly keen to restore pride on soccer-mad Merseyside.

And they know the only way to do that is to gun down Bob Paisley's 'Red Army' on the Anfield battlefield.

But even though Liverpool are streets clear at the top of the League, they still refuse to admit the Championship race is over and want three points as badly as they did when the two sides met in November.

Here Liverpool goal-ace Ian Rush and Everton defender John Bailey talk exclusively about the battle for supremacy on Merseyside. It's John that kicks off...

WE must beat Liverpool to repay our fans for the embarrassing 5-0 defeat at Goodison.

We know it's not going to be easy — after all, they are the best side in the country — but the lads are geared for victory.

Liverpool showed us up in front of our own fans and we owe them one for that.

Our supporters expect a lot from us now and nothing less than a win will satisfy them. We'll be going out to get just that.

IAN: I agree that the onus is probably on Everton to win, John, but don't expect any favours from us.

We will be going out there to win and hopefully produce a repeat of the Goodison performance when I scored four of our five goals.

I can't see that happening, however, and I'm sure it will be a close match. You seem to be playing well at the moment and will be trying hard to make amends for the defeat in November.

JOHN: I couldn't agree more, Ian. That was a nightmare game for us and one we will have to live with until the end of the season if we don't beat you at Anfield.

Nothing went right for us that day and, in the end, you could have won by eight or nine goals — five was bad enough, though.

We had to make a couple of changes at the back before the game, which unsettled us. And when Glen Keeley was sent off, things went from bad to worse. We became totally disorganized.

But I'm not wishing to take anything away from Liverpool because you played well and deserved to win.

IAN: That was probably the best we have played all season. Everything we did turned to gold and it seemed that every shot I hit went in... it was just one of those days.

It was the first time I had ever scored four goals in a game and to do it against Everton — the team I supported as a kid — made it a very special occasion.

SCOUSERS'



Determined Everton full-back John Bailey: "We owe Liverpool one for showing us up in front of our own fans."

I sometimes look at video recordings of the game and I still can't believe what happened. I'll probably never have another day like that again in my career.

JOHN: It's been a great season for you Ian, and I have nominated you as my 'Player of the Year'. It's probably a toss-up between yourself and Kenny Dalglish as to who wins it.

But we'll be hoping to put the brakes on your goalscoring exploits... we're not going to let you take the match ball home this time!

Our marking will have to be tight and we'll need to keep a close watch on all ten outfield players because they are all capable of scoring goals.

Overawed

In the game at Goodison, we didn't close your players down quickly enough. We had a few youngsters in that day and some had never played in a derby... perhaps they were a little overawed by the occasion.

But I am sure they will have learned from that experience and will be better equipped for the Anfield clash.

IAN: I think you're right in what you say about inexperienced players being overawed, but it's understandable because there's so much pressure on you on you in a derby game.

I remember my first derby at Anfield last season and it was a very nerve-racking experience. Sometimes you are scared to try things you would do in any other League game.

I think derbies either bring the best, or the worst out of players. Fortunately for me, things have

A DECADE OF MERSEYSIDE DERBIES

1981-82

LIVERPOOL 3 (Dalglish 2, Rush) EVERTON 1 (Ferguson)
EVERTON 1 (Sharp), LIVERPOOL 3 (Whelan, Souness, Johnston)

1980-81

EVERTON 2 (Hartford, McBride), LIVERPOOL 2 (Lee, Dalglish)
LIVERPOOL 1 (Bailey og), EVERTON 0

1979-80

LIVERPOOL 2 (Lyons og, Kennedy R), EVERTON 2 (Kidd, King)
EVERTON 1 (Eastoe), LIVERPOOL 2 (Johnson, Neal pen)

1978-79

EVERTON 1 (King), LIVERPOOL 0
LIVERPOOL 1 (Dalglish), EVERTON 1 (King)

1977-78

LIVERPOOL 0, EVERTON 0
EVERTON 0, LIVERPOOL 1 (Johnson)

1976-77

LIVERPOOL 3 (Heighway, Neal pen, Toshack) EVERTON 1 (Dobson)
EVERTON 0, LIVERPOOL 0

1975-76

EVERTON 0, LIVERPOOL 0
LIVERPOOL 1 (Fairclough), EVERTON 0

1974-75

EVERTON 0, LIVERPOOL 0
LIVERPOOL 0, EVERTON 0

1973-74

EVERTON 0, LIVERPOOL 1 (Waddle)
LIVERPOOL 0, EVERTON 0

1972-73

LIVERPOOL 1 (Cormack), EVERTON 0
EVERTON 0, LIVERPOOL 2 (Hughes 2)

TOP SCORERS

Top scorers in
Merseyside derbies over
the past ten years
Ian Rush (Liverpool) 5
Kenny Dalglish (Liverpool) 4
Andy King (Everton) 3

SHOOT-OUT!

EVERTON SEEK REVENGE FOR GOODISON MASSACRE

gone right in games against
Everton... I hope my luck
continues on Saturday.

JOHN: I have played in four or five
derbies now and it's totally
different from playing in League
matches... it's more like a cup
final.

The games are played at 100mph
and you can't afford to dwell on
the ball for more than a few
seconds because there's always
someone hounding you.

The build-up starts about a week
before the game and, on the day,
the atmosphere is incredible.
People talk about Manchester
derbies as being great occasions
but Everton v Liverpool games are
in a different class.

It's a special occasion for the
fans because victory over the local
rivals means so much to them.
IAN: I agree, John. In fact I think
derbies mean more to the
supporters than the players. They
are the ones who have to put up
with the jibes from their friends
and workmates if their side loses.

That obviously puts pressure on
players because you desperately
want to win for your fans' sake.

Your supporters have had little
to cheer about over the past few
seasons but you now seem to have
a settled side and could be on the
verge of success.

You have been enjoying a good

run recently and so confidence
must be high. One of your players I
rate very highly is Kevin Sheedy,
who I played alongside in the
reserves at Liverpool a couple of
seasons ago.

He is a tremendous player in my
books and has the best left foot in
the business. His passing is
excellent and he knocks the ball
about with great confidence.
Kevin will be one of the
dangerous and we'll have to
watch him very closely.

Another player I admire in the
Everton side is Andy King, but he is
now out through injury and I
understand he will miss the derby.
He often scores against us and
would have been a big danger.
JOHN: The injury to Andy is a big
blow to us. He has been our best
player in recent weeks and we will
miss him.

Unfortunately he has badly
damaged ligaments which
required an operation and he's
likely to be out for the rest of the
season.

Andy could have been a
match-winner for us against
Liverpool and his absence will be a
great loss. But we have Steve
McMahon and Peter Reid ready to
step in and I'm sure whoever plays
will do a good job.

We are looking more solid at the
back now and Kevin Ratcliffe and

Mark Higgins seem to have struck
up a good partnership.

That will stand us in good stead
against Liverpool, but that's not to
say we will sit back and defend.

We will go out and attack
because we feel that's the only
way to play at Anfield. If we sit
back you'll probably destroy us.

Brighton proved you are not
unbeatable at home and we will be
going out there to win. If we can
play the way we have been doing
in recent weeks, we are in with a
chance.

We've had an indifferent season
so far, but seem to be coming
good now and we are battling to
earn a place in Europe.

IAN: From the reports about
Everton that I've read, you seem to
be better organised and, with a
few wins behind you, look like
giving us a hard game. I think it
will be just the odd goal which
separates us on the day.

Although we have lost a few
games in recent weeks, I think we
are experienced enough not to let
it affect us and, if we play as well
as we can, we have to fancy our
chances. See you at Anfield.

● LIVERPOOL Pole-axed...
read the Graeme Souness
column on page 9.



Liverpool hot-shot Ian Rush. He scored four goals against Everton at Goodison earlier this season and says: "I'll probably never have another day like it in my career."

Below: Andy King — he scored the winner on the last occasion Everton beat Liverpool in the League but he misses Saturday's clash.



'Match' reporter Melvyn Beck has conducted an exclusive survey of the 18 foreign signings who have been regularly parading their talents in the English League. Here are the results...

OSSTIE LEADS THE FOREIGN LEGION

TOTTENHAM'S Argentinian international Osvaldo Ardiles is the top foreign import in the Football League.

The little midfield maestro, back at White Hart Lane after a loan spell with French side Paris St Germain, averaged 7.11 from 27 First Division games up to the end of last month — the ratings taken from our Match Facts guide.

His fellow countryman, Ricky Villa, is fourth, averaging 6.75 from 49 appearances.

He figured in more First Division games than his Tottenham team-mate during that period, having stayed in England rather than follow Osvaldo into self-imposed exile during the Falklands crisis.

The second top Continental player is Ipswich's midfield star Frans Thijssen.

He's one half of the 'Dutch Masters' duo who brought their supreme midfield talents from FC Twente more than four years ago.

The other, Arnold Muhren, moved on to Manchester United at the start of the season and now faces the prospect of two Cup final appearances at Wembley, but he only stands in seventh spot in our exclusive table.

Frans, who missed most of last season through injury, averaged 6.89, with Notts County's

Yugoslavian goalkeeper Raddy Avramovic in third place on 6.78.

Raddy was a record £200,000 signing from NK Rijeka in August

1979, and was the first Continental goalkeeper to make a real breakthrough in the First Division.

Two other Yugoslavs make up the top six, Swansea's talented 'sweeper', Ante Rajkovic, and Hereford's little known midfield player Adam Musial, who is returning behind the Iron Curtain at the end of this season.

The table excludes talented newcomers from overseas, like Charlton's super Dane Allan Simonsen, Nottingham Forest's

Dutch international goalkeeper Hans Van Breukelen and Arsenal's Yugoslavian star Vladimir Petrovic.

Along with Notts County's Finnish player Aki Lahtinen and Norwich's Dutch youngster Dennis Van Wyk, they hadn't reached the qualifying figure of 20 League appearances.

But of those five, Simonsen leads with an average of 7.07, with Petrovic (7.00) and Van Breukelen (6.92) following him.

HOW THEY STAND

Player

Player	Games	Points	Average
Osvaldo Ardiles (Tottenham)	27	192	7.11
Frans Thijssen (Ipswich)	37	255	6.89
Raddy Avramovic (Notts County)	69	468	6.78
Ricky Villa (Tottenham)	49	331	6.75
Ante Rajkovic (Swansea)	62	413	6.66
Adam Musial (Hereford)	30	200	6.66
Arnold Muhren (Man. U.)	62	410	6.61
Raddy Antic (Luton)	39	257	6.58
Jan Lohman (Watford)	35	230	6.57
Romeo Zondervan (West Brom)	43	280	6.51
Ivan Golac (Bournemouth)	44	283	6.43
Ante Mirocevic (Sheff. Wed.)	36	231	6.41
Yakka Banovic (Derby)	32	205	6.40
Heine Otto (Middlesbrough)	68	432	6.35
Francois Van der Elst (West Ham)	47	297	6.31
Dzemal Hadzibabic (Swansea)	49	307	6.26
Aage Hareide (Norwich)	34	204	6.00
Martin Jol (West Brom)	38	226	5.94

League games from the start of last season to the end of last month and a player must have played at least twenty games to qualify.

Top: Ossie Ardiles — the most consistent performer of all the foreign imports.

Above: Ante Rajkovic of Swansea — fifth in our table of top foreign imports.



BATTING BROOKE

LUCKY-to-be-alive

Tottenham footballer Garry Brooke is soaking up the Spanish sunshine this week preparing for the second biggest battle of his life.

He came through the first with flying colours last month when he survived an horrific car crash that threatened to end his promising career.

Now he's looking ahead to next season and the fight to rescue his First Division future at White Hart Lane.

Tragedy struck at a time when he had just emerged from the shadows to establish himself in the big time.

Now, with this season written off, he expects to be at the end of the midfield queue again next August.

"I suppose I would have been more disappointed had Tottenham been involved in the Championship race and the FA Cup," says Garry, who is recuperating at Tottenham's expense in Spain.

"But for the first four days after the accident my only concern was living and not worrying whether I would play again.

"It was touch and go and my only thoughts were on survival. It was only after I came off the respirator that my mind turned to football again.

Fitness

"If I hadn't been able to breathe properly without the machine, it would have meant an operation, and that could have affected my future.

"But being able to breathe unaided was a tremendous feeling and now I'm ready to start on the long, hard road back to fitness.

"It may be another two months or so before I can resume training as it takes time for the ribs to settle down again, so I shall be spending a lonely time this summer training on my own ready for next season.

"At least I shall be one of the fittest players at the club when we report back next season!"

But Garry, who had played in 18 of Tottenham's first 27 League games before the accident, knows that getting back to fitness is only half the battle.

"With players like Osvaldo Ardiles and Glenn Hoddle both back to full fitness, there will be about seven of us battling for the three midfield places," he says.

"I may have established myself before the crash, but that'll count for nothing when we start again next season.

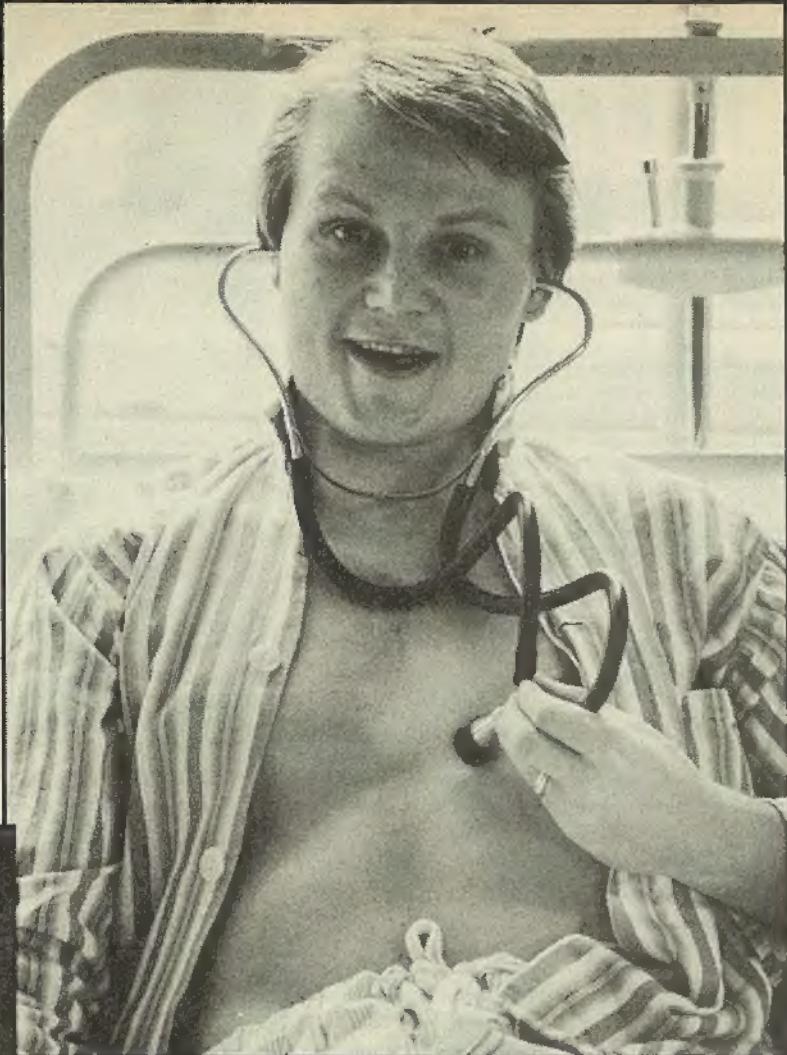
"I've got to prove that I can produce the goods again, and it will be like going back to square one for me."

GARRY PUTS CAR CRASH HORROR BEHIND HIM



Top: Ticking along nicely! Garry Brooke is all smiles as he clowns with a stethoscope on the day he left hospital... but at one stage it was touch and go.

Above: Garry in action for Spurs earlier this season — now he faces a long, hard battle to win his place back in the side.



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REID AIMS FOR 'THE BIG ONE'

EVERTON midfielder Peter Reid is hoping to play in his second Merseyside derby within the space of a month.

Peter played in the reserve side which beat Liverpool three weeks ago and he is bidding for a return to first team action in time for the 'big one' at Anfield on Saturday.

A December signing from Bolton, Peter says: "Derby games are always special occasions and I would love to be involved."

"I have been out of the first team for a few games but I'm battling hard to win back my place... I've just got to wait and see."

Peter believes a derby victory at Anfield would give Everton a great boost as they make a bid for a place in Europe.

"Obviously it's going to be a tough game, but it's a one-off situation and if we can get a result it is bound to help us on the run-in," he says.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

■ WALES manager Mike England predicts a bright future for his newly-formed striking partnership of Ian Rush and Gordon Davies.

Following the pair's first outing together in the 2-1 defeat at Wembley last month, Mike said: "I am convinced they will cause defences a lot of trouble."

"I thought Ian and Gordon played well together and at times looked very sharp, but it was difficult to judge players under those conditions — it was more like Bambi on Ice."

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Newcastle 'keeper Kevin Carr — "New signings don't guarantee promotion — even if the players are world class."

GEORDIES BIDE THEIR TIME

GOALKEEPER Kevin Carr claims he's not surprised that Newcastle aren't currently involved in the Second Division promotion race.

After the signings of former England stars Kevin Keegan and Terry McDermott, the Geordies became most people's favourites for promotion.

But says Kevin: "It doesn't necessarily follow that you will have instant success after signing new players, even if they are world class."

"It takes time for everyone to adjust to different styles, but this is not to say we have given up the ghost. There's still a long way to go."

"It's maddening more than disappointing to think we are in a mid-table position. We lost only two matches in a recent League sequence of 13, but seven of them were drawn."

"With a bit of luck, we could have transformed some of them into wins, and that would have made quite a bit of difference."

BOBBY ON THE BOX

AN in-depth film profile of England manager Bobby Robson is being shown on Channel Four on Monday, March 28, two days before the European Championship clash with Greece at Wembley.

The film was shot behind the scenes during his last season with Ipswich. It gives a unique insight into the personality of a man who has developed from an international player to an international manager.



■ WATFORD are heading for China at the end of this season.

The First Division newcomers have been invited by the Chinese Football Association to play three matches, two in Peking and one in Shanghai. One of the games will be against the Chinese national side, who were just pipped for a place in the World Cup Finals by New Zealand last year.

■ WHILE Burnley have been soaking up the glory in both domestic cup competitions, reserve defender David Holt has decided to quite football to concentrate on his haulage business. The former Bury and Oldham player was a regular in the Burnley side until the middle of January.

SUBBUTEO STAR BIDS FOR WEMBLEY

THANKS to Match Weekly, 14-year-old Greg Pember, of Ilford, is just one step away from playing at Wembley.

He's taking part in the South East Regional Final of the Match Weekly/Subbuteo National Championships this weekend and the two finalists go through to the Grand Finals at Wembley on April 30/May 1.

It was through 'Match Weekly' that young Greg joined the Subbuteo Association after we had published an application form in our December 18 issue. He then went and won his local Subbuteo League and was chosen to contest the South East Regional Finals at Bentalls Store in Kingston-upon-Thames this Saturday.

The Finals take place from 10.30 am to 4 pm, and spectators can qualify for a FREE mystery prize by producing this cutting or this issue of 'Match' at the event.

Greg, who attends the Seven Kings school at Ilford, first took up Subbuteo as a hobby just over three years ago. "I started playing seriously a year and a half ago when I formed a local league," he says.

"I invited friends from school to take part and we now have eight members. When I'm not playing in the league, I practice alone at home for a couple of hours each night."

"I was delighted to win through to the Regional Finals and I am quietly confident of getting into the Grand Final at Wembley — I'm really looking forward to it."

The South East Regional Finals take place from 10.30 am to 4 pm.

MATCH CHAT

JOHN BOND COULDN'T AFFORD...

Compiled by Melvyn Beck



"We need more help in the air so I have decided to buy a new player."

STRIKERS John Keehan (left) and Keith Bertschin

are proving quite a catch for Norwich City and the deadly duo have no trouble finding the net when they enjoy a spot of fishing together. What better way to relax before a big match?

On Saturday, however, they will be angling for bigger fish... in the shape of opponents Notts County. (Picture courtesy Angling Times.)

■ ENGLAND Boys skipper Michael Thomas has created a piece of soccer history at the tender age of 15.

The South London boy became the first black player to captain an England international team in the 4-0 defeat of Northern Ireland at Southampton last month.

IN THE NET!

NORWICH City's Norwegian international Aage Hareide had to leave Manchester City because the club couldn't afford to play him!

The blond defender, who has made 24 League appearances for Manchester City, explains: "I started this season in the side and was dropped after seven games even though we were second in the First Division.

"I went to see manager John Bond and asked for an explanation. He told me that when I signed from my home town club Molde they had a clause in the transfer that, if I made 30 appearances for City, they'd have to pay out an extra £15,000.

"The manager dropped me because I was approaching that number of games and the club couldn't afford the extra money," says Aage, who is currently out of action with a broken cheekbone.

"I was very disappointed because I felt I was good enough for the first team. Playing in the reserves was no good to me so I was delighted when the chance to join Norwich came along."

Aage, who made his Norwich debut in the 2-1 defeat against Notts County in November, says: "I feel much more involved at Norwich than I did at Maine Road.

"Norwich isn't such a big club as Manchester City and you see more of the whole set-up. You are in daily contact with everyone at the club.

"It makes me sad to see Manchester City at a low ebb because I enjoyed my spell there and got on very well with the players and fans.

"Manchester is one of the best football cities in the world and it deserves two successful teams," says the 29-year-old.

Aage was brought to England on the recommendation of former Manchester United centre-half Bill Foulkes. He was coaching in Norway when he spotted Aage playing part-time for Molde.

And Aage had no hesitation in giving up his job as an accountant and flying to England.

He says: "English football is very popular in Norway and it was always an ambition of mine to try and make the grade in the First Division.

"There's no doubt in my mind that it is the best in the world."



BEST OF BRITISH!

THREE 'Match' columnists — Graeme Souness, Steve Coppell and Glenn Hoddle — are among the nominations to find the best ever British footballers.

The trio are on a unique shortlist compiled by the British Market Research Bureau to find the greatest players Britain has produced.

The survey was commissioned by brewers Whitbread and they will be announcing their 'Best of British' team at a special lunch in London next Tuesday.

Goalkeepers Peter Shilton, Ray Clemence and Pat Jennings are battling for a place in the team alongside the great Gordon Banks.

Over 2,000 people were interviewed throughout Britain to find out who they regard as 'The Best of British'. The winners will each be presented with a silver salver by Whitbread.

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KEN FURPHY'S AMERICA



FORTY-five minutes for half time
grass six inches long surgical
tape for white lines sometimes
you just never know what to expect in
America!

The 1976 season opened in April with high
hopes that, at last, the North American Soccer
League was really on the move.

I was soon to learn there was much to be
done . . .

One half-time interval at Miami stretched to
30 minutes. Our opponents just didn't come
out and left us to fry in the sun.

From then on, I waited for a signal that the
opposing team were about to go out before I
made a move!

It wasn't always done for tactical reasons,
but a later visit to Chicago really took the
biscuit . . .

At half-time a marching display band took
to the field and 45 minutes later they were
still going through their repertoire. Nothing, it
seemed, could make them stop!



The playing surfaces were also a problem in
the early days with players having to switch
from astro turf to grass and vice versa.

That was bad enough, but the astro differed
vastly and boot selection was always a
problem.

In the case of grass it was often deliberately
left long, making it extremely difficult to play
any decent football.

A case in point came when Cosmos played
the Washington Diplomats on an abysmal
pitch measuring sixty by one hundred yards
with grass six inches long and a huge mound
in the middle.

The mound was so high that we could not
see the corner flags from the side of the
field . . . it was an automatic draining system!

We knew of the pitch and the limited
facilities beforehand, which was why we
offered the Diplomats 50,000 dollars to switch
the venue — to the JF Kennedy Stadium
where they were later to play their home
games.

FORMER Sheffield United and
Watford manager Ken Furphy
continues his fascinating series on
soccer Stateside.

Now back in England, Ken's
telling all to 'Match'.

THE BAND PLAYED ON ... AND ON ... AND ON!

But they turned our offer down . . . probably
because they felt they stood a better chance
of beating us on a poor surface.

People did their best to convince me that it
was not a deliberate act, but you could have
fooled me!

On another occasion when we arrived at
Boston in torrential rain, I saw English referee
Gordon Hill on his hands and knees in the
wind and rain trying to stick long lengths of
surgical tape down on the astro turf surface to
act as lines.

The wind whipped the tape back up faster
than he could put it down!

Apparently the rain had washed away all
the markings and with no sawdust available
the game was in doubt.

We decided to make the best of a bad job,
with a few dots of white powder scattered
about as lines and by using the edge of the
astro turf as the touch lines the game went
ahead.

Boston were deep in financial debt and that
became increasingly apparent when they
arrived to play us in New York.

The players had not been paid and
threatened to boycott the game. Anticipating
trouble, the NASL Commissioner, Phil
Woosnam, had flown in the Minnesota team
to take Boston's place.

Minnesota were already stripped in the
dressing room waiting to play us when some
agreement was reached and the Boston
players agreed to turn out for the first half.

The saga was far from over, however. At
half-time the players refused to come out
again because the insurance cover was not
paid.

It was left to Phil to produce a cheque so the
game could continue.

To cap an eventful day we lost on the
penalty shoot-out with Pele once again
missing the shot that would have won the
game . . .

NEXT WEEK! Trevor Francis on the
rampage! The England striker at his brilliant
best for Detroit Express.

LADY luck deserted us in Poland.

We totally outplayed Widzew Lodz in the European Cup clash but, on the night, we never got the breaks in front of goal.

For the most part of the Quarter-Final first leg confrontation, it was like playing at Anfield — the ball hardly came out of their half.

The only difference was that, despite creating several chances, we just couldn't find the back of the net.

And to make matters worse, it was a mistake by our 'keeper Bruce Grobelaar which gave the Polish Champions the lead just three minutes into the second half.

It was a bad error by Bruce and it came at a bad time for us.

He came out of his goal to collect a cross and, although he was under no pressure, he dropped the ball at the feet of a Lodz forward.

Bruce received a lot of stick in the press for that mistake, some of which was unfair. It was something which can happen to a goalkeeper at any time.

It was simply a lack of concentration on his part. We had been playing most of the game in the Poles' half and Bruce had little to do. When they broke he was caught cold.

The unfortunate thing for a 'keeper is that one mistake can be crucial whereas midfield players, like myself, can make half a dozen errors without being punished.

We are not blaming Bruce for our defeat because he has won us so many games in the past and will do so again in the future. He is a tremendous 'keeper and I rate him among the top three in the country.

It's not the first mistake he has made, and it won't be the last. He is still young and is learning all the time. He will still be playing top class football in ten years' time.

After we went a goal down against the Poles, we fought our way back into the game, but it was the same old story . . . we couldn't score.

And things went from bad to worse eight minutes from time when they scored a spectacular goal on the counter-attack.

That capped a miserable day because we considered ourselves unlucky not to come away at least on level terms.

The defeat had nothing to do with the long journey we had to make behind the 'Iron Curtain'. We left for Poland the day before the game and arrived the same evening. We were well rested for the match.

We can't blame the conditions either. Although it was very cold, the pitch was perfect. The only thing that was lacking was a little luck.

Hopefully, by the time you read this we will have put the record straight in the home leg. We were certainly confident of salvaging the tie and going into the hat for the Semi-Finals.

After the disappointments of the mid-week game in the chilly climes of Poland, we returned

BRUCE

DROPS A CLANGER

... BUT IT'S UNFAIR TO BLAME GROBBELAAR FOR DEFEAT IN POLAND

home to better fortunes in the League at home to Stoke.

We didn't play any better than we did against the Poles but this time we got the breaks, and it was Stoke who were left holding their heads in disbelief after suffering a 5-1 defeat.

As you may recall from my last column, I said I hoped that Richie Barker's team would adopt a different attitude from the time they visited Anfield in the FA Cup Third Round.

We beat them 2-0 that day in a game which was made very dull by their defensive tactics.

But for the League game, they had a completely different approach and chose to try and attack us.

It was just unfortunate, for them at least, that on the day

everything went right for us and we beat them 5-1.

But even though they lost convincingly I am sure the Stoke players would have gained more satisfaction from that game than the boring Cup-tie of a few months ago.

We enjoyed our fair share of good fortune and I don't mind admitting that two of the goals were somewhat lucky.

Phil Neal put us 2-0 up with a shot which was tipped on to the post by 'keeper Peter Fox before it trickled over the line. And there was a certain amount of luck attached to our fourth goal when a clearance from a Stoke defender struck Craig Johnston and bounced into the net off his chest.

I got in on the goalscoring act

THE GRAEME SOUNNESS COLUMN

The Liverpool skipper reflects on a Pole-axe in the European Cup . . . and looks forward to their bid to land the double over Merseyside rivals Everton.



with what was almost the last kick of the game. Kenny Dalglish squared the ball to me on the edge of the box and I hit it on the half-volley.

It was one of those efforts which either go high and wide or find the net . . . fortunately this one went in.

It was nice to get a victory under our belts again after failing to win in our previous four games. Hopefully our good fortune will continue for the derby game against Everton on Saturday.

We beat our Merseyside rivals convincingly at Goodison Park earlier in the season, but there's no way we will repeat that 5-0 performance.

We had a golden day and Everton had a bad one. We expect a more closely fought game at Anfield.

The game will be played at cup-tie speed in a cup-tie atmosphere and a lot can depend on which team settles down first.

Everton have improved a great deal since the last time we played them and although I haven't seen them recently, they have been getting some excellent reports in the press.

We have a good record against them at Anfield but that's nothing to go by. They will be trying even harder to seek revenge for the 5-0 defeat in front of their own fans.

The injury to Andy King will have come as a big blow to them because he always tends to play well against us and often scores spectacular goals.

But they have many other good players and people like Graeme Sharp and Kevin Sheedy have the ability to turn a game.

People have been saying that it's more important for Everton to win to restore their pride on Merseyside, but we want the three points to maintain our lead at the top of the table.

The way people talk it's as though the Championship race is already over — but we don't see it that way.

We have got ourselves in a very strong position but we know we could still blow it if we get too confident.

Three points against Everton will give us a great boost and put us in the right frame of mind for the Milk Cup Final against Manchester United the following week.

It will be a very hard game because United are a tremendous side and have the strongest squad in the country.

When we played them in the League at Old Trafford, we drew 1-1 in a closely fought match. We expect the same sort of game a week on Saturday.

I am really looking forward to the Final and hopefully, if we get the breaks on the day, I will be holding the Milk Cup aloft at Wembley.

See you in two weeks.

● Graeme Sounness was talking to Dave Smith.



West Ham's classy midfielder Alan Devonshire, showing the kind of style that earned him an England recall for the British Championship match against Wales, fires in a shot on goal despite the lunging challenge from West Brom's Romeo Zondervan.

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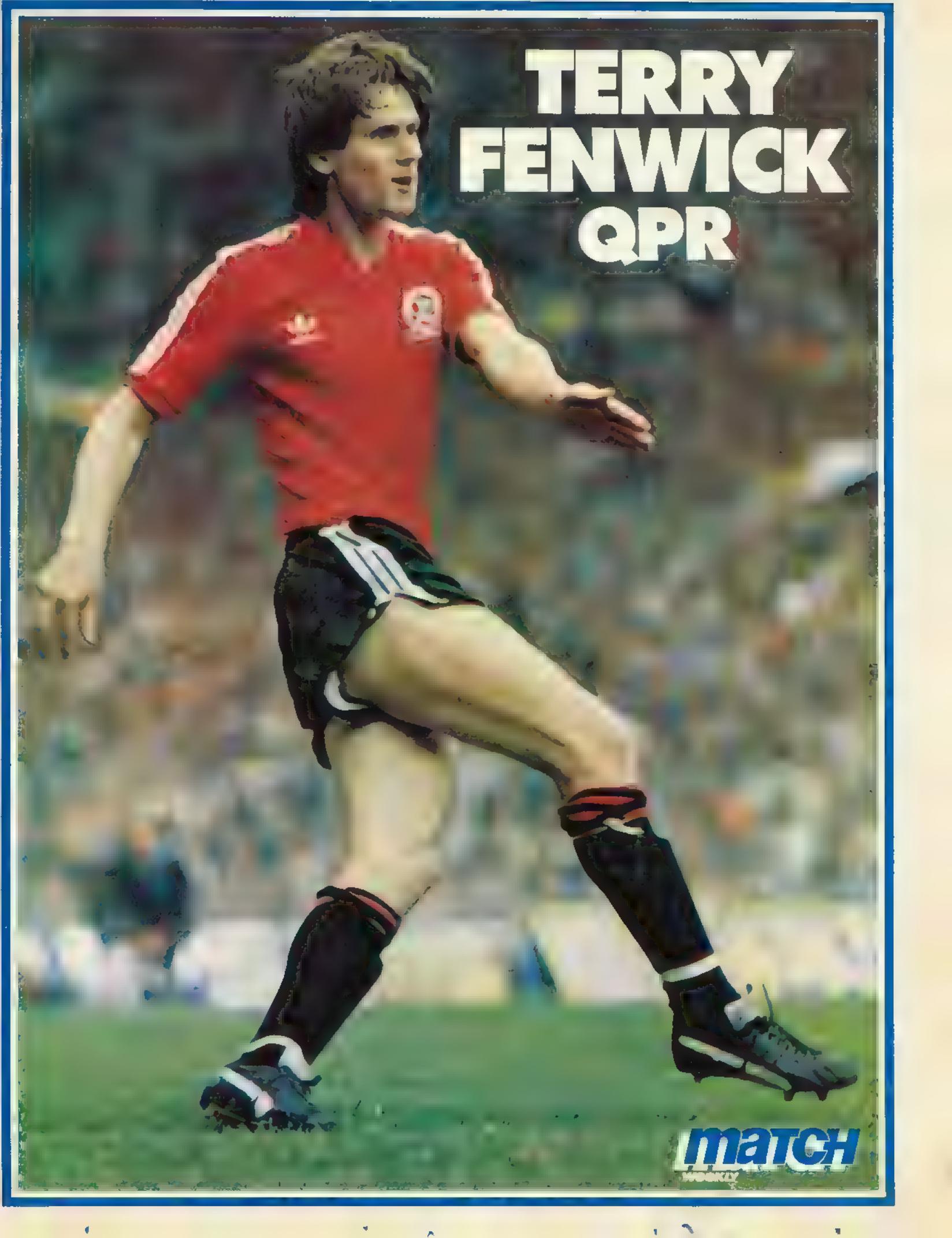
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TERRY FENWICK QPR

match
WEEKLY

DEBUT day dazzlers! 'Match' highlights some of the fastest goals scored by players making their League debuts.

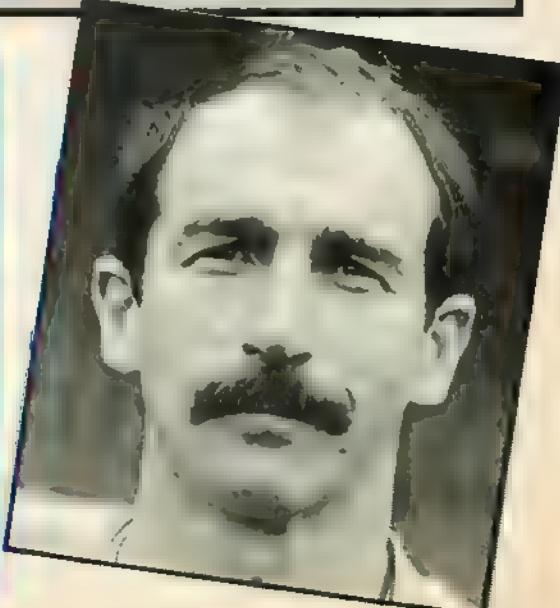
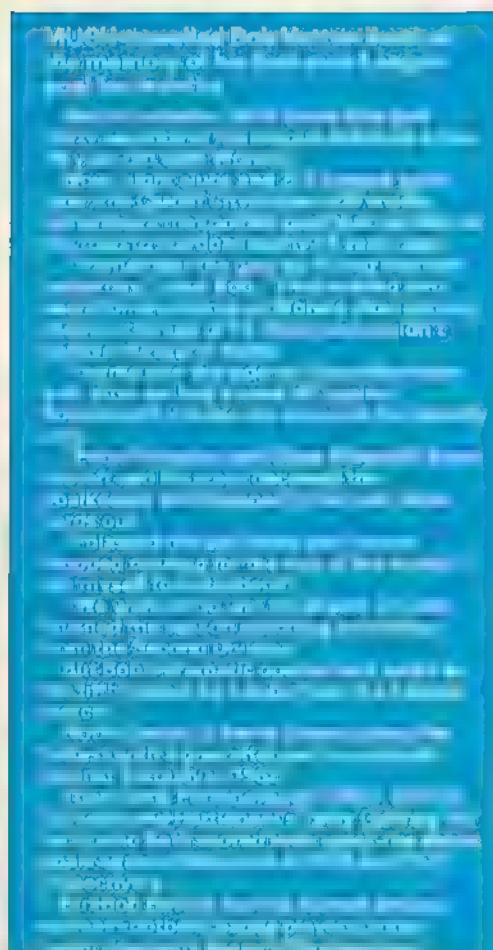


Graham Baker heads home for Manchester City against Coventry this season — he scored after just 56 seconds of his League debut.

QUICK OFF THE MARK!

DEBUT DAY DAZZLERS

Time	Player	Club	Opponents	Date
6 secs	BARRIE JONES	(Notts County)	v Torquay.	March 31, 1962
13 secs	BILLY TELFORD	(Peterborough)	v Aldershot.	Sept. 13, 1975
15 secs	TERRY GAFFNEY	(Hartlepool)	v Aldershot.	Dec. 10, 1977
25 secs	BERNARD EVANS	(Wrexham)	v Bradford.	Sept. 15, 1954
30 secs	BOB HATTON	(Wolves)	v Portsmouth.	Oct. 8, 1966
50 secs	PETER WARD	(Brighton)	v Hereford.	March 27, 1976
58 secs	GRAHAM BAKER	(Southampton)	v Blackpool.	Nov. 12, 1977
1 min	KEITH BERTSCHIN	(Ipswich)	v Arsenal.	April 17, 1976
4 mins	FRANK SHERIDAN	(Derby)	v QPR.	Oct. 18, 1980



PAUL Elliott provided the perfect answer to his critics on his First Division debut.

The 18-year-old was thrown in at the deep end of Luton's relegation battle, after the club had paid Charlton £150,000 for his services.

But he kept a tight rein on West Brom's highly-rated new striker Garry Thompson, to help his side gain a valuable point.

And as he looked forward to

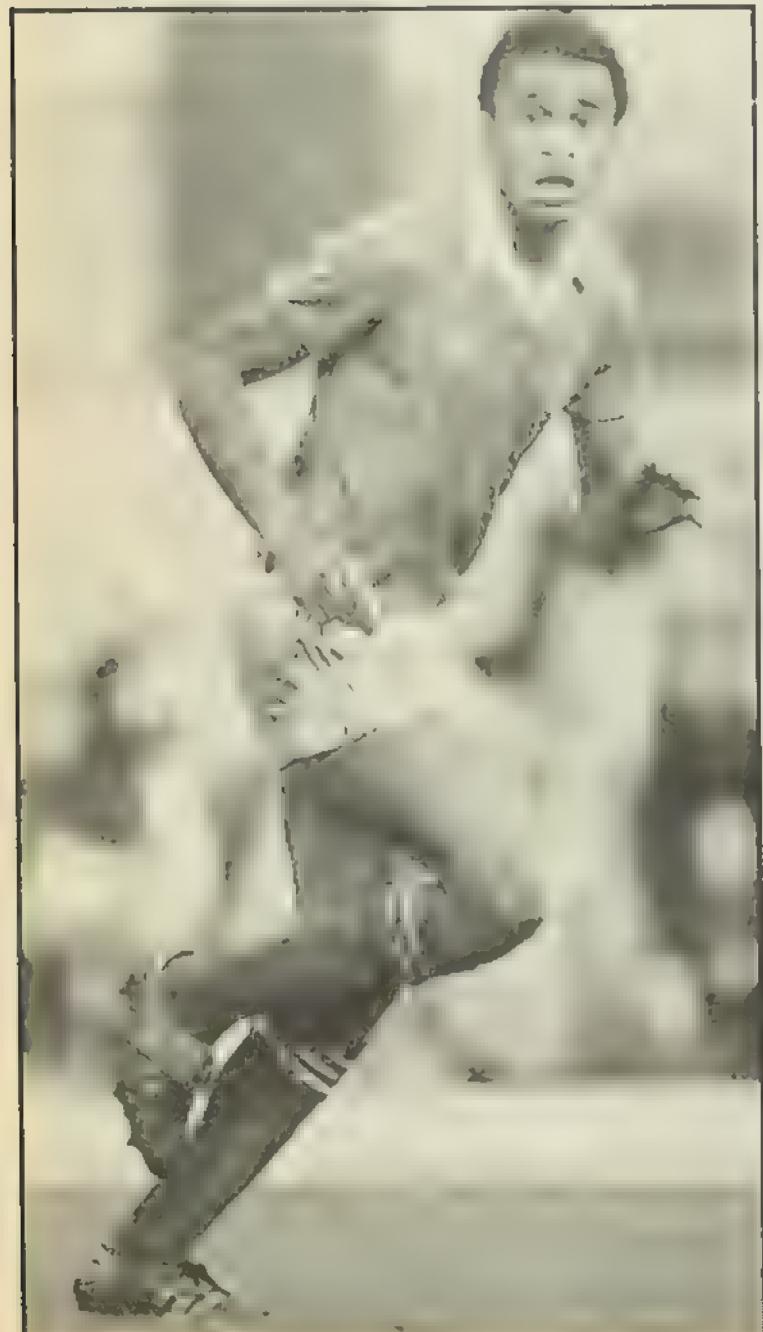
his next challenge — against Arsenal at Highbury on Saturday — he told 'Match': "I think I proved a point or two with that performance against West Brom.

"Some people suggested that I was a bit raw and inexperienced to be thrown in, but I don't believe age is important as long as you have ability.

"I'm confident I can do well and I just hope I can play my

HATS OFF TO PAUL!

LUTON TEENAGER DEFIES CRITICS



part in lifting Luton up the League."

Ironically Luton could have signed Paul for nothing two years ago. At that time, he was playing as a striker but the 'Hatters' sent him packing after a trial match.

Looking back Paul admits: "I was rejected by two or three clubs and I wondered whether I would ever get the chance before Charlton stepped in."

Earlier this season his name was linked with Tottenham, Arsenal and West Ham, but it still came as a shock to him when Luton stepped in with an offer for him to link up with his former Charlton team-mate Paul Walsh.

"I was a bit envious when Paul went to Luton at the beginning of the season because we had more or less come up together from the youth ranks at Charlton," says Paul, who was also turned down by West Ham and Millwall before Charlton stepped in.

"It has always been my ambition to play in the First Division, but with the recession I wondered whether I would get the chance.

"Some big clubs expressed an interest in me earlier this season but as far as I know, there were never any concrete bids.

"So it came as a real surprise when manager Lennie Lawrence telephoned me to say that a First Division club had made an offer for me.

"I wasn't bothered which club or where they were in the League. It was a First Division club and that was all that mattered.

"The move suited both parties. I wanted to get into the First Division and Charlton wanted the money.

"Now, having achieved my first ambition to get into the First Division, I want to achieve my second — an England Under-21 cap before the end of the season."

Whatever he achieves in the game, Paul will always have a soft spot for Charlton because they gave him his chance in League football.

"They thought I had potential as a central defender rather than a winger or striker, and I've never looked back," says Paul, who is only in his second season of League football.

"I still like to get forward at times, but towards the end of my time with Charlton I was a little restricted with the club desperately needing the points.

"I hope Charlton stay in the Second. It's a good little club and I think the lads showed a lot of character to bounce back from a 7-1 drubbing at Burnley to beat Chelsea 5-2.

"It showed there is plenty of spirit there, and, if they can keep Allan Simonsen, then they have every chance.

"It was a pleasure to play with Allan. Despite the fact that he is reported to be earning all that money, he's a genuine and committed professional."

Left: Paul Elliott — now he's in the First Division he's bidding for an England Under-21 cap before the end of the season!

OFFER: Panini football stickers.
WANTS: Stickers or anything to do with Leeds.

Julia MacLean, Duart House, Brookfield Road, Churchdown, Gloucs.

OFFER: Three Leeds scarves, a Sunderland pennant and a Newcastle scarf.

WANTS: Three Liverpool scarves and a Liverpool flag.
Neil Aitchison, 50 Balkwell Crescent, North Shields, Tyne and Wear NE29 7HY

OFFER: Norwich home top (34-36)
WANTS: Birmingham away top (34-36).

Daryl Mann, 8 Hopton Drive, Sundorne, Shrewsbury SY1 4QA.

OFFER: Assorted magazines.
WANTS: Ipswich Town home socks and shorts.
Jonathan Lewis, 7 Y Parc, Groes Faen, Near Llantrisant, Mid-Glamorgan, South Wales.

OFFER: Fifteen Subbuteo teams, pitch, ball and goals.
WANTS: One hundred programmes — preferably Arsenal
Andrew Scott, 23 Frankland Place, Leeds LS7 4NT

OFFER: Man. Utd. jigsaw, stickers and Liverpool annual (1980).
WANTS: Fifty assorted programmes from 1979-81
Perrie Chahal, 91 Carrington Street, Bradford BD3 8AJ.

OFFER: Six Subbuteo teams, goals and a pitch.

WANTS: Pre 1975 Cup Final programmes or any autographs.
Melvin Ridley, Bishop Stopford School House, Kettering, Northants.

OFFER: 'Shankly on Soccer' LP (vol. one).

WANTS: Arsenal v Swans programme from last season.
David Holmes, 10 Owenroe Drive, Bangor, County Down, Northern Ireland.

OFFER: Glasgow Rangers scarf and assorted QPR programmes.

WANTS: Large black red and white flag and black red and white hat — not a bobble hat.

William Laird, 85 Bruce Road, Gallowhill, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland

OFFER: Three football annuals plus World Cup '78 book.
WANTS: Anything to do with Huddersfield Town.
Damon Thomas, 12 Edale Avenue, Newsome, Huddersfield, West Yorks.

OFFER: Crystal Palace home shirt (36) and Chicago Sting NASL shirt (34-36).
WANTS: Grimsby Town home shirt (36).

Christopher Coward, School House, South Duffield, Selby, North Yorks YO8 7SZ.

● Don't miss 'Programme Swaps' on Page 27.



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ASTON

VILLA

1.

JUVENTUS

2

European Cup, Quarter-Final,
First Leg, Villa Park,
Wednesday, March 2, 1983.

It took just forty seconds for Italian
World Cup hero Paolo Rossi to lessen
Aston Villa's grip on the European Cup.
The Juventus striker caught Villa
napping at the near post with a
rapier-like header after a neat
combination on the left between
Bettega and the overlapping Gabrini.

Then Juventus' expensive imports,
Michel Platini and Zbigniew Boniek
combined their silky talents to douse
the flames of Villa's fiery comeback
with a late winner.
French skipper Platini measured a
defence-splitting ball to perfection
with the outside of his right foot, and
Polish star Boniek took it in his stride to
lash an unstoppable drive past the
diving Nigel Spink.

Villa's hopes of containing the
star-spangled Italian Champions had
been raised early in the second half
with a brilliant equaliser from new
England cap Gordon Cowans.

PAOLO JUVENTUS

GOLDEN GOAL!

ROSSI

BONIEK

See Platini

Gordon Cowans gets in front
of the Juventus defence to
equalise with a brilliant
diving header.

PLATINI

LIVERPOOL have creamed the title but we are determined to deliver the Milk Cup to our fabulous fans.

Our support this year has been nothing less than phenomenal.

Take the Milk Cup Semi-Final, second leg against Arsenal at Old Trafford. We were two goals up and favourites to go through, yet 56,000 fans still turned up to cheer us on to Wembley!

It shows the hunger of the supporters to see a trophy on the shelf and we'll do all we can to match that in determination on the field when we oppose Liverpool in the Final a week on Saturday.

The Championship must surely go to Anfield again looking at Liverpool's lead with just a quarter of the season to go.

But while we are disappointed that we are not closer to Liverpool in the title race, there's no question of just playing out our remaining matches.

The big incentive for us is to clinch the runners-up spot and to that end, Watford are right up there challenging with us.

We have two home games in the space of four days — against Brighton on Saturday and West Ham the following Tuesday — so we'll be looking for six points from them.

It would be nice to go into our Wembley encounter in winning mood.

After going four games without a win, Liverpool got back to their usual victorious ways with a vengeance against Stoke earlier this month . . . as if to silence anyone who may have dared suggest they were rocking a little.

It was a prime example of that special quality they possess.

They had just returned from a 2-0 European Cup defeat in Poland — not the best country in the world to visit — they had problems on the flight and they were disappointed and tired.

Stoke, meanwhile, had beaten us in mid-week and must have been on cloud nine.

The result? Liverpool went out and soundly beat the Potteries side 5-1!

You can't have anything but the greatest respect for Bob Paisley's side.

Come the day of the Milk Cup Final, however, we've just got to go out, forget who we are playing and concentrate on our own game.

To beat Liverpool you must play very well and everyone in the United side will need to be on top form.

We can, however, boast a better goals record in the competition — we've scored 20 compared to Liverpool's 12.

And I've been fortunate enough to score six myself — two more than I've scored in the League this season!

I'm sure it's purely coincidence. Neither myself or the team have played any differently in the Milk Cup. Having said that, I hope my luck holds out at Wembley.

The last time we met beneath the twin towers was in the 1977 FA Cup Final and United ran out 2-1

winners

Of the present side, only myself and Arthur Albiston played that day.

At the time, Liverpool were chasing a possible treble and they were suffering from fixture congestion. This time their minds will be solely fixed on the Milk Cup.

We've both got re-arranged League matches on the Tuesday before the Final and then everything will be concentrated on Wembley.

We'll probably travel down to our London hotel on the Wednesday or Thursday and it will be Friday afternoon before the pressure gets up. That's when you realise it's not just another game.

It's very hard to single out individual players on the Liverpool side. While it's important to keep a close watch on strikers Ian Rush and Kenny Dalglish, Liverpool's goals can come from anyone in the team.

The biggest talking point

concerning our camp has been the loss of skipper Bryan Robson. His injury came as a bitter blow.

At the time of writing, it was unclear whether or not Bryan would be available for the Wembley clash.

He spent some time resting out in Italy with Trevor Francis last week and was due to have the plaster removed from his leg at the weekend.

It was a case of take it from there but Bryan is a quick healer. He seems to shrug off injury quite easily.

Losing a player of Bryan's talents would have made all the difference to a lot of teams but we were lucky at United to have a player of the calibre of Ray Wilkins to step in.

Ray is a fabulous player, albeit in a different style to Bryan, and it was no surprise that he was made captain on his return to the side.

He has natural leadership qualities and he really enjoys the role of captain.

It's the ultimate irony in Ray's case because he was displaced from the team through injury and now he's won his place back through injury to someone else.

Certainly he's played really well since his comeback and he looks the obvious man to regain the captaincy of England should Bryan still be out.

Our next international is against Greece in the European Championship on March 30. It would be great to be a Wembley winner twice in the space of four days!

Again, the Greece match provides another opportunity for players to impress manager Bobby Robson and circumstances may dictate a bit of chopping and changing.

It's an important game to win, of course, but just because England won 3-1 in Greece it's no reason to expect another Luxembourg style show at Wembley.

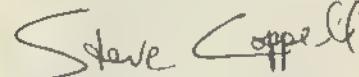
It's going to be a competitive match because the Greeks are in a different class. They can play a little bit.

So far, however, the England side has clicked despite any changes and we have to be confident of continuing our winning run.

Lastly, and on a personal note, I'm busy preparing my speech for the Professional Footballers' Association dinner at the Hilton Hotel a week on Sunday.

As Chairman of the PFA, my job is really just to welcome everyone but, on past experiences of making speeches, I'm keeping my fingers crossed this one goes well . . .

See you again soon . . .



Steve Coppell was talking to Paul Stratton.

THE STEVE COPPELL COLUMN

The Manchester United favourite looks ahead to the Milk Cup Final clash with Liverpool.

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BE A WINNER WITH MATCH

BE A WINNER WITH MATCH



STOP THE ACTION

HERE'S a crucial goal from an FA Cup Fourth Round replay this season. Can you name the two competing teams and the two defenders chasing a hopeless cause?

FREE



Attached in the centre of the March 17th issue of Smash Hits is a giant double-sided wall poster featuring **Wham!** and **Culture Club**. It's printed in full colour, measures 34" x 22" and comes absolutely free! And that's in addition to all our regular colour posters, features, hit songwords and prize competitions. All in **Smash Hits**—Britain's Brightest Pop Magazine.

Smash DEETS

MARCH 17th

TRACE THE TEAMS

CAN you trace the ten Scottish Premier Division teams listed below in the letter maze (above). They may read vertically, horizontally, or diagonally. To give you a start we've marked the first team — Aberdeen.

The other teams hidden are: Celtic, Dundee, Dundee United, Kilmarnock, Morton, Motherwell, Rangers, St Mirren, Hibernian.

The solution can be found on Page 35 of this week's issue.

L	T	A	P	H	N	E	R	R	I	M	T	S
A	L	W	Y	I	X	M	A	O	R	F	E	K
O	D	E	A	B	E	R	D	E	E	N	C	C
G	A	W	W	E	L	N	T	A	O	E	R	O
L	I	H	P	R	A	R	E	J	L	K	Y	N
R	E	N	T	N	E	A	S	T	R	I	C	R
C	A	B	Y	I	A	H	I	M	O	P	E	A
E	D	N	P	A	T	C	T	O	M	Y	A	M
A	U	E	G	N	A	T	F	O	E	B	O	L
P	N	Y	N	E	M	Q	R	Z	M	A	N	I
T	D	S	E	P	R	T	E	N	O	M	O	K
M	E	J	L	G	O	S	C	O	T	L	E	C
D	E	T	I	N	U	E	E	D	N	U	D	H

MATCH 'EM UP

MATCH up the Fourth Division strikers on the left with the clubs on the right.

1 Mike Quinn	a) Bury
2 Andy Rowland	b) Northampton
3 Craig Madden	c) Stockport
4 Les Mutrie	d) Swindon
5 Steve Massey	e) Hull

EUROPEAN QUIZ

THE battle renewed this week for places in the Semi-Finals of the three European competitions. Here's a test of your memory about some of the earlier rounds this season.

1 WHAT was unusual about Aston Villa's First Round home leg against Turkish side Besiktas?

2 WHO knocked Manchester United out of the UEFA Cup?

3 WHAT was the score in Arsenal's UEFA Cup, First Round, Second Leg clash with Moscow Spartak. Was it 3-4, 2-5, 2-4 or 1-4?

4 WHAT was Swansea's aggregate score against Sliema in the Cup Winners' Cup. Was it 15-0, 16-0 or 17-0?

5 WHO knocked Tottenham out of the Cup Winners' Cup?

MIDDLE TIME

CAN you unjumble the letters
to find a First Division
international defender?

ITARMNNLAIV



UNJUMBLE the letters to find out which two teams are playing each other.

SOLUTIONS

GET THE POINT: Liverpool 0; West Brom 0; Leeds 4; Arsenal 48; Man. United 9; Bristol City 6; Birmingham 10; Derby 31; Norwich 10; Bristol City 39; Coventry 38; Nottingham 17; Chelsea 3.

BE A WINNER WITH MATCH



GET THE POINT!

COMPLETE the following First Division table from season 1978-79. Don't forget there are only two points for a win, and one for a draw.

CLUB	HOME				AWAY				P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
	P	W	D	L	A	W	D	L							
Liverpool	42	18	2	31	4	11	6	4	34	12	88				
Nottingham F	42	11	10	9	34	10	10	8	3	27	16	60			
West Bromwich A	42	13	5	3	38	15	11	4	34	20	59				
Leeds	42	12	7	2	32	17	5	10	6	20	23	51			
Ipswich	42	11	6	4	34	21	9	5	7	29	28	49			
Aston	42	11	8	2	37	18	6	6	9	24	30				
Aston Villa	42	8	9	4	37	26	7	7	22	23	46				
Bolton U	42	7	5	29	25	6	8	7	31	38	45				
Coventry	42	11	7	3	41	29	3	9	9	17	39	44			
Tottenham	42	7	6	19	25	6	7	8	29	36	41				
Middlesbrough	42	10	5	6	33	21	5	5	11	24	40				
Bristol C	42	11	6	4	34	19	4	13	13	32	40				
Southampton	42	9	10	2	35	20	3	6	12	12	33	40			
Manchester C	42	9	5	7	34	28	4	8	9	24	28				
Norwich	42	7	4	29	19	0	13	8	22	38	37				
Bolton	42	10	5	8	36	28	6	13	18	47	35				
Wolverhampton W	42	10	4	26	28	3	4	14	18	42	34				
Derby	42	8	5	8	25	25	2	6	13	19	46				
Queen's Park R	42	4	9	8	24	33	2	6	15	21	40	25			
Birmingham	42	5	9	7	24	25	1	1	19	13	39	22			
Chelsea	42	5	13	23	42	2	5	14	21	50	20				



C PLACE
THE FACE

Can you recognise the players and who they play for.



MASKED MAN

CAN you name the mystery star relaxing in the garden of his home? He plays for one of the top Midlands clubs.

Last week's mystery man was Middlesbrough goalkeeper Jim Platt.

HEADS
YOU
WIN!

GREAT HATS COMPETITION

A



B



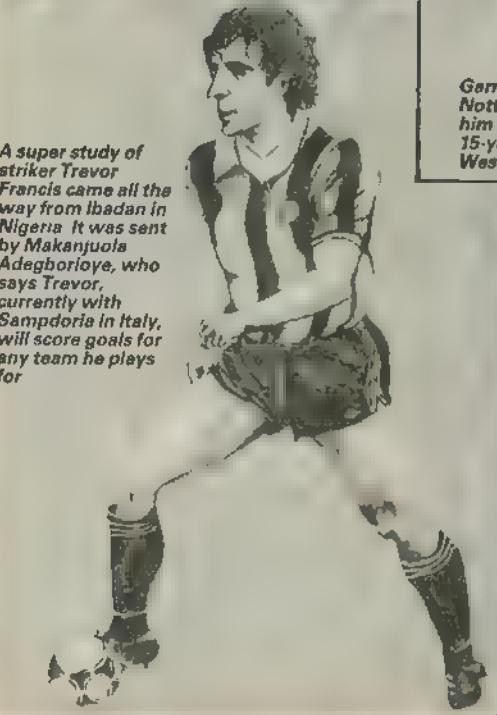
Name

Address

.....

Club choice

STAR GALLERY



A super study of striker Trevor Francis came all the way from Ibadan in Nigeria. It was sent by Makanjuola Adegboroye, who says Trevor, currently with Sampdoria in Italy, will score goals for any team he plays for



Garry Birtles' return to form at Nottingham Forest has earned him a place in Star Gallery, says 15-year-old Kevin Fallows from West Kirkton, Dundee



DRAW a picture of your favourite footballer and you could win a fabulous soccer card game!

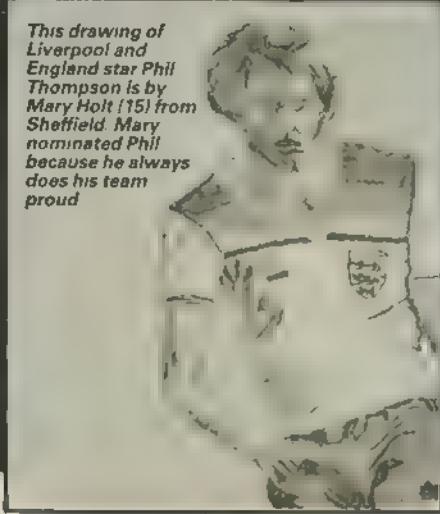
'Big League' is an exciting new game normally played by 2-6 people — the object being to form a team of 11 players.

It's you can also amuse yourself by playing 'Big League' patience

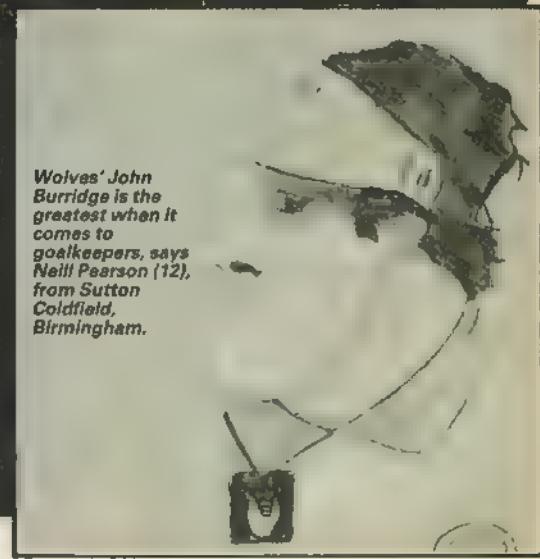
It's a game approved by the Football League and all you have to do to stand a chance of winning one is send in your drawing together with a sentence saying why your chosen player deserves a place in 'Star Gallery'.

The sender of each drawing published is a winner!

Write to: 'Star Gallery', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ



This drawing of Liverpool and England star Phil Thompson is by Mary Holt (15) from Sheffield. Mary nominated Phil because he always does his team proud



Wolves' John Burridge is the greatest when it comes to goalkeepers, says Neill Pearson (12), from Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham.



AS SEEN ON THE BBC HOLIDAY 83 PROGRAMME

If you really enjoy playing Soccer spend a week at Alan Mullery's Soccerworld this summer — you'll have the time of your life and they promise to improve your game, interested? . . . for full details and a colour brochure just telephone 01-646 0941.

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SOCER WORLD

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ARSENAL RULE IN LONDON



CAPITAL KINGS

An exclusive 'Match Weekly' survey to end all the arguments about which team really is the pride of London. Research by Melvyn Beck.

ARSENAL are the Capital Kings!

They have been the most consistent London side in the three domestic competitions during the past ten seasons.

In a special Match Weekly survey, they come out on top from North London rivals Tottenham, and the other First Division side in the capital, West Ham.

Although Tottenham are the most successful in the League Cup, Arsenal take the honours in both the Football League and FA Cup sections.

Our conclusions are drawn from a points table based on final positions in the League in each of the last ten seasons, and progress in both Cup competitions.

For example, if Arsenal have won the Championship they would have collected 92 points, the scale sliding down to one point for a team finishing bottom of the Fourth Division.

In the Cups, a team received ten points winning, losing finalists eight and so on, with one point awarded for a First Round win.

Although Arsenal haven't won the Championship since completing the 'double' in the early seventies, they have consistently finished higher in the First Division than any of the capital's 13 teams.

Queen's Park Rangers are the best placed side currently out of the top flight, while Wimbledon's position at the foot of the table is expected as they have only been in the League five seasons.

Arsenal are relegated to fourth place in the League Cup table, behind Tottenham, QPR and West Ham who were beaten finalists two years ago.

Tottenham may have won the FA Cup for the past two years — that alone giving them twenty points, but their performances in the competition prior to that were disappointing. They managed only 13 points in eight seasons.

So Arsenal, Wembley visitors in three successive years, once again showed their consistency to enjoy an eleven-point advantage.

Watford's rapid climb to the heady heights of the First Division is demonstrated by their low placing in the table, having spent most of their time in the lower divisions before the arrival of manager Graham Taylor.

FINAL TABLE

Team
Arsenal
Tottenham
West Ham
QPR
Chelsea
C Palace
Stratford
Charlton
Millwall
Watford
Brentford
Wimbledon

FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Team	Points
Arsenal	92
Tottenham	89
West Ham	87
QPR	86
Chelsea	85
C Palace	84
Stratford	83
Charlton	82
Millwall	81
Watford	80
Brentford	79
Wimbledon	78

LEAGUE CUP

Team	Points
Tottenham	34
QPR	32
West Ham	31
Arsenal	30
Charlton	29
Stratford	28
Millwall	27
Watford	26
Brentford	25
Wimbledon	24
C Palace	23
Charlton	22
Stratford	21
Charlton	20
Stratford	19
Charlton	18
Stratford	17
Charlton	16
Stratford	15
Charlton	14
Stratford	13
Charlton	12
Stratford	11
Charlton	10
Stratford	9
Charlton	8
Stratford	7
Charlton	6
Stratford	5
Charlton	4
Stratford	3
Charlton	2
Stratford	1
Charlton	0

FA CUP

Team	Points
Arsenal	35
Tottenham	34
West Ham	33
QPR	32
Stratford	31
Charlton	30
Millwall	29
Watford	28
Brentford	27
Wimbledon	26
C Palace	25
Charlton	24
Stratford	23
Charlton	22
Stratford	21
Charlton	20
Stratford	19
Charlton	18
Stratford	17
Charlton	16
Stratford	15
Charlton	14
Stratford	13
Charlton	12
Stratford	11
Charlton	10
Stratford	9
Charlton	8
Stratford	7
Charlton	6
Stratford	5
Charlton	4
Stratford	3
Charlton	2
Stratford	1
Charlton	0



BACK ROW (left to right)— Brian Scott (physiotherapist), Eddie McNamee, Willie Ross, John Buckley, Willie Gardner (player-manager at Allonby), Jim Dobbie, Robbie Lovell (reserve team coach).

SECOND ROW— Billy McNeill (manager), Finlay McGarvey, George McCracken, Eddie Moyse, Tom McAdam, Pat Bonner, Roy Aitken, Mike Gearon (now Hibernian), Tom Burns, Mark Reid, John Clark (assistant manager).

CELTIC



BACK ROW — Jimmy Johnstone, Jimmy McCall, Jimmy McLean, Jimmy McMillan, Jimmy McRae, Jimmy McVernon.

Middle Row — Danny McGrain, David McDonald, Martin McLeod, Graeme Sinclair.

FRONT ROW — Peter Grant, Jim McGuigan, Jim McInally, Jim McLean, Jim McVernon.

McGUGAN, JIM McINALLY

Picture: courtesy of the Celtic

STAR CHALLENGE



Leicester striker Gary Lineker (below) and his challenger Steven York.

THIS WEEK'S STAR GUEST . . .

GARY LINEKER



LEICESTER are still on course for promotion to the First Division, says their star striker Gary Lineker.

Following their sensational 5-0 win over leaders Wolves at Filbert Street, Leicester are fourth in the table but seven points adrift of the top three.

Despite that gap, Gary says, "I still fancy our chances of going up. I believe one of the teams above us — and it could be Fulham — will crack."

Gary, who is this week's special guest on 'Star Challenge', believes that both Wolves and Fulham will drop valuable points on Saturday at Grimsby and Oldham respectively.

"Grimsby are a good solid side

Here are the ten selected matches for this week, together with the predictions of a lucky 'Match' reader and his famous opponent.

There's space for you to fill in your predictions and a column for the

actual result.

Award two points for every correct score and one point if the result is correct (i.e. home win, away win, draw), but the scoreline is wrong.

	Steven's forecast	Gary's forecast	Your forecast	Result
Barnsley v Middlesb'.	2-0	1-0		
Burnley v Newcastle	1-1	3-2		
Carlisle v Blackburn	1-0	1-1		
Charlton v Leeds	1-1	1-2		
C. Palace v Chelsea	1-2	1-0		
Derby v Sheff. Wed.	0-2	1-0		
Grimsby v Wolves	2-1	1-1		
Oldham v Fulham	1-1	1-1		
QPR v Rotherham	2-2	3-0		
Shrewsbury v Bolton	3-0	1-0		

FIXTURES

Saturday, March 19
DIVISION ONE

Arsenal v Luton	
Aston Villa v Coventry	
Ipswich v Nott. F.	
Liverpool v Everton	
Man. Utd v Brighton	
Notts C v Norwich	
Southampton v Man. C.	
Sunderland v Swansaa	
Watford v Spurs	
West Brom v Birmingham	
West Ham v Stoke	

DIVISION TWO

Barnsley v Middlesb'	
Burnley v Newcastle	
Carlisle v Blackburn	
Charlton v Leeds	
C. Palace v Chelsea	
Derby v Sheff. Wed.	
Grimbsy v Wolves	
Leicester v Cambridge	
Oldham v Fulham	
QPR v Rotherham	
Shrewsbury v Bolton	

DIVISION THREE

Bradford v Brentford	
Bristol R. v Southend	
Gillingham v Portsmouth	
Huddersfield v Bournemouth	
Lincoln v Chesterfield	
Newport v Reading	

and I can't see many teams beating them at home. I can't really judge Wolves because both times they've played us they have been awful."

The young striker believes that promotion chasers QPR will have little difficulty disposing of Rotherham at Loftus Road. "Their pitch will help them to a 3-0 win."

And he expects the highest scoring game to be at Burnley, where the Lancashire cup kings take on mighty Newcastle.

"Burnley are like Notts County — they are so unpredictable. The only thing you can expect is goals from them and I think they'll win 3-2."

Gary has been challenged by 13-year-old Steven York from Leicester. Both have predicted scorelines for ten Second Division games and points will be awarded according to the accuracy of the forecasts.

If Steven manages to score more points than striker Gary, he'll be awarded a special 'Star Challenge' certificate.

Win, lose or draw, Steven won't go home empty-handed. Every challenger receives a personally autographed picture of their favourite player.

If you would like to take part in 'Star Challenge' write in, enclosing your name, age and address — together with a black and white photograph of yourself.

Don't forget to tell us your favourite team and players. Just write to: 'Star Challenge', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.

● Bad luck to Margaret Harrison of Acock's Green, Birmingham, who lost 1-7 to Aston Villa defender Allan Evans in our February 26 issue.

But congratulations to Claire Stevens of Bishopstoke, Hants, who beat Southampton's Mark Wright 7-6 in our March 5 issue.

Plymouth v Doncaster

Preston v Cardiff

Sheff. Utd v Oxford

Walsall v Exeter

Wigan v Orient

Wrexham v Millwall

DIVISION FOUR

Aldershot v York

Bury v Chester

Crewe v Blackpool

Hereford v Hereford

Mansfield v Colchester

Peterborough v Hull

Port Vale v Rochdale

Swindon v Darlington

Wimbledon v Hartlepool

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Aberdeen v Dundee Utd

Dundee v Celtic

Kilmarnock v Morton

Rangers v Motherwell

St Mirren v Hibernian

FIRST DIVISION

Alois v Dumbarton

Ayr v Airdrie

Clyde v Queens Park

Dunfermline v Clydebank

Hamilton v Raith

Hearts v Partick

St Johnstone v Falkirk

SECOND DIVISION

Albion v Forfar

Arbroath v Berwick

Brechin v Cowdenbeath

East Fife v Montrose

East Stirlings v Meadowbank

Queen of the South v Stirling

Stenhousemuir v Stranraer

Sunday, March 20

DIVISION FOUR

Northampton v Scunthorpe

Tuesday, March 22

DIVISION ONE

Brighton v Liverpool

Ward v Birmingham

DIVISION TWO

QPR v Charlton

Sheff. Wed. v Leicester

DIVISION THREE

Brentford v Oxford

DIVISION FOUR

Rochdale v Colchester

Wednesday, March 23

DIVISION ONE

Norwich v Coventry

Spurs v Aston Villa

DIVISION THREE

Lincoln v Newport

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Celtic v Rangers

Hibernian v Aberdeen

FIRST DIVISION

Partick v Raith

Falkirk v Clyde

SECOND DIVISION

Albion v Cowdenbeath

Meadowbank v Stranraer

Queen of the South v Forfar

Friday, March 25

DIVISION THREE

Doncaster v Gillingham

Orient v Wrexham

Reading v Walsall

DIVISION FOUR

Colchester v Tramore

Halifax v Wimbledon

Scunthorpe v Crewe

MATCH FACTS MATCH FACTS

Saturday, Mar. 5 SCOTTISH Premier Division

DUNDEE (1) 2 (Sor mego 34, Kidd 52)
ST MIRREN (3) 5 (Scanlon 8, 88 Fitzpatrick 33, Wardrop 43, Logan 59)
Att: 4,161
Dundee: Ke ly 6, McGaughie 5, McKimmie 6, **★FRASER** 8, Smith 7, MacDonald 7
Ferguson 5 (sub: Glashan 8), Scrimgeour 6, Bel 6, Mackie 7, Kidd 6
St Mirren: Thomson 7, Wilson 7, Clarke 7, **★FITZPATRICK** 8, Fulton 7, McCormick 7
Wardrop 5 (sub: Logan 8), Richardson 7, Somner 6, McAviney 7, Scanlon 8
Referee: H. Alexander (Kilmarnock)
Match Rating: ★★★★

KILMARNOCK (0) 1 (Galagher 84)
ABERFOELEN (2) 2 (Watson 14, McGhee 25)
Att: 2,400
Kilmarnock: McCulloch 6, McClurg 6, **★COCKBURN** 7, Clark 8, McLean 5
Clark 8, McGivern 5 (sub: Muir 5), MacLeod 4 (sub: McLean 4), Bourke 5, Simpson 8
Gallagher 5
Aberdeen: Leighton 7, Kennedy 6, Rougvie 6 (sub: McMaster 4), Cooper 6, McLean 5
Miller 6, Strachan 7, **★SIMPSON** 8, McGhee 6, Watson 7, Black 8
Referee: J. Duncan (Gorebridge)
Match Rating: ★★★

MORTON (0) 0
CELTIC (2) 3 (Sullivan 9, MacLeod 14, McCluskey 89)
Att: 8,600
Morton: Ba nos 7, Hayes 5, Holmes 6, Rooney 8, **★MCNAUL** 8, Doak 6, Payne 7, McNeil 6, Hutchinson 5 (sub: Houston 5)
Docherty 5, McNab 5 (sub: Gavagan 5)
Celtic: Bonner 7, McGaughie 7, Sinclair 6, Aitken 7, McAdam 7, Sullivan 7, McCuskey 6, McStay 6, Nicholas 7, MacLeod 7, **★MCARVEY** 8
Referee: K. Hope (Glasgow)
Match Rating: ★★★

MOTHERWELL (1) 1 (Gahagan 15)
DUNDEE UNITED (2) 4 (Gough 18, 31, Dadds 47, McInnes 59)
Att: 3,589
Motherwell: Walker 4, Dornan 6, MacLeod 6, Forbes 6, Edvaldsson 4, Mauchline 6, **★GAHAGAN** 7, Rafferty 6, Harrow 5, McClar 8, O'Hara 6
Dundee Utd: McAlpine 6, Stark 6, Murray 6, **★GOUGH** 8, Hegarty 8, Narey 5, Bannon 7, McInnes 6, Kirkwood 5 (sub: Malpas), Holt 6, Dadds 5
Referee: R. Cuthill (Wynchburgh)
Match Rating: ★★★★

RANGERS (0) 1 (Dalglish 77)
HIBERNIAN (0) 1 (Jameson 71)
Att: 10,975
Rangers: McCoy 7, McKinnon 6, Black 6 (sub: Davies), **★MCLELLAND** 8, McPherson 6, Bett 6, Dalglish 6, Pyt 4, Kennedy 4, Redford 4, Johnstone 4 (sub: Cooper 7)
Hibs: Rough 6, **★SNEDDON** 7, Turnbull 6, Jameson 6, Rae 6, McNamara 6, Conroy 4, Rice 6 (sub: McKeel), Irvine 4, Thomson 5, Harvey 4 (sub: Dunn 6)
Referee: W. Syme (Glasgow)
Match Rating: ★★★

First Division

ALLOA (2) 3 (McComb 30, 38, Grant 54)
QUEENS PARK (1) 1 (Nicholson 45)
Att: 626
AYR (0) 1 (Aherne 89)
CLYDEBANK (0) 0
Att: 778
CLYDE (0) 1 (Dempsey 49)
DUMBARTON (0) 0
Att: 480
DUNFERMLINE (0) 0
PARTICK (2) 3 (Watson 26, Doyle 43, 81)
Att: 1,480
HAMILTON (0) 0
AIRDRIE (2) 3 (Jarvie 19, Millar 42, 72)
Att: 1,000
HEARTS (1) 1 (O'Connor 37)
FALKIRK (0) 2 (McCullie 51, Mackie 90)
Att: 5,600
ST JOHNSTONE (0) 1 (Brogan 71)
RAITH (0) 0
Att: 2,174

The best results service in football

MATCH FACTS is the results service that's the talk of football, providing a remarkably detailed guide to League, League Cup and FA Cup matches in England and Scotland.

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It contains extra information, like star ratings for each player and entertainment values for each game.
It includes League tables and the leading scorers in each division once the season gets underway.
And each month our player ratings determine the prestigious Matchman of the Month awards in each of the four English divisions plus the Scottish Premier.
No other publication provides such a service!

PLAYER RATINGS

10 Out of this world
9 Outstanding
8 Excellent
7 Good
6 Adequate
5 Off form
4 Poor

MATCH RATINGS

★★★★★ A classic
★★★★ Good value
★★★★ Satisfactory
★★★ Dull
★★ A waste of money

Second Division

ALBION (1) 1 (Woods 9)
STRANRAER (1) 2 (Hay pen 11, Sweeney 49)
Att: 190
ARBROATH (0) 1 (Shaw 67)
STIRLING (0) 0
Att: 454
BRECHIN (0) 3 (Simpson 49, Hay 52, Malone 73)
MONTROSE (0) 1 (Duffy 77)
Att: 500
EAST FIFE (0) 0
COWDENBEATH (1) 2 (MacIntosh 40, Gibson 77)
Att: 612
EAST STIRLING (0) 0
FORFAR (1) 1 (McDonald 32)
Att: 250
MEADOWBANK (0) 1 (Smith 78)
QUEEN OF THE SOUTH (0) 2 (Alexander 61, Robertson 77)
Att: 400
STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 0
BERWICK (0) 1 (Pearson 81)
Att: 220

Tuesday, Mar. 8 Division One

ASTON VILLA (1) 2 (Wile 28, Shaw 54)
NOTTS COUNTY (0)
Att: 17,452
Aston Villa: Spink 6, Deacy 6, Gibson 6, Evans 8, McNaught 7, Mortimer 7 (sub: Blair 6), Bremner 8, Shaw 6, Withe 8, **★COWANS** 9, Walters 7
Notts County: **★LEONARD** 9, Goodwin 5 (sub: Christie 8), Worrington 6, Hunt 5, Kickne 5, Richards 6, Chedzoy 6, Fashanu 6, McCulloch 6, O'Brien 5, Hooks 6
Referee: R. Nixon (Stockport)
Match Rating: ★★★

Division Two

MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 2 (Kennedy 34, Hankin 75)
SHREWSBURY (1) 1 (MacLaren 10)
Att: 7,406
Middlesbrough: O'Hanlon 6, Nattrass 7, Wood 6, Baxter 6, Mowbray 7, Otto 7, Sugrue 6, **★KENNEDY** 8, Hankin 7, Shearer 6, Bell 7
Shrewsbury: Ogrizovic 6, Williams 8, Johnson 7, Turner 6, **★PEARSON** 8, Bates 6, Patis 5 (sub: Leonard 5), MacLaren 6, Brown 6, Robinson 5, Stevens 5
Referee: P. A. Tyldeley (Stockport)
Match Rating: ★★

Welsh Cup, Semi-Final, First Leg

COLWYN BAY (0) 0
SWANSEA (1) 1 (Latchford)
Att: 3,500

Wednesday, Mar. 9 SCOTTISH First Division

CLYDE (0) 1 (Nevin 74)
DUNFERMLINE (0) 0
Att: 576
Second Division

BRECHIN (1) 2 (Busby 34, McCann 87)
QUEEN OF THE SOUTH (1) 3 (Campbell 35, Fleming 51, Alexander 89)
Att: 650
COWDENBEATH (0) 1 (MacIntosh 85)
ALBION (1) 1 (Gray 11)
Att: 450
EAST FIFE (0) 0
FORFAR (1) 2 (MacDonald 35, Bennett 55)
Att: 300
STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 0
STIRLING (0) 0
Att: 370

Welsh Cup, Semi-Final, First Leg

CAERNARVON (0) 0
WREXHAM (1) 2 (Edwards, Gregory)
Att: 2,000

Friday, Mar. 11 Division Three

BRENTFORD (0) 2 (Joseph 57, Kama 80)
PLYMOUTH (0) 0
Att: 4,967
Brentford: Roche 7, Rowe 8, Wilks 6, McNichol 6, Whistle 6, Hurlock 7, Kama 7, **★JOSEPH** 8, Cassell 6, Bowles 6, Roberts 7
Plymouth: Crugington 7, Nsibet 6, Uzzell 5, Harrison 6, Smith 6, Cooper 7, Hodges 6, Phillips 6, Sims 6, McCartney 6, **★ROGERS** 8
Referee: D. H. Brazier (Northampton)
Match Rating: ★★★

Division Four

CREWE (0) 1 (Weller 85)
HALIFAX (0) 1 (Staniforth 56)
Att: 2,518
Crewe: Smith 6, **★BRADY** 8, Bowers 8, Edwards 6, Scott 6, Hart 7, Craven 6, Bancroft 5 (sub: Haslegrave), Walker 7, Walker 5, Class 6
Halifax: Smart 7, Nobbs 7, **★CARR** 8, Evans 7, Smith 6, Skivington 6, Wilkes 6, Spooner 7
Att: 4,967
A. Staniforth 7, Ward 7, Staniforth 7
Referee: R. Chadwick (Darwen)
Match Rating: ★★★

STOCKPORT (0) 1 (Coy 58)
WIMBLEDON (2) 3 (Morris 19, Hodges 22, Bell 77)
Att: 2,260
Stockport: Lloyd 5, Rutter 6, Sherlock 7, Emerson 8, Sword 7, Thorpe 6, Phillips 6, Wardrobe 5 (sub: Smith 6), Quinn 7, **★POWER** 8, Coyle 7
Wimbledon: Beaumont 7, Peters 7, Sparrow 7, Galiers 7, Smith 7, Morris 7, Evans 7, Bellfield 7, Leslie 6 (sub: Downes 6), **★HODGES** 8, Barnett 7
Referee: D. Richardson (Gt. Harwood)
Match Rating: ★★★

Saturday, Mar. 12 FA Cup, Sixth Round

ARSENAL (2) 2 (Woodcock 32, Petrov 35)
ASTON VILLA (0) 0
Att: 41,774
Arsenal: Jennings 7, Hollins 7, Samsom 8, Robson 7, Whyte 7, Nicholas 7, Petrov 7, Davis 7, Sunderland 6, **★WOODCOCK** 9, Rick 8
Aston Villa: Spink 7, Deacy 6 (sub: Walters), Gibson 7, **★EVANS** 8, Williams 7, Mortimer 6, Bremner 6, Shaw 6, Withe 6, Cowans 7, Morley 6
Referee: K. Walmsley (Lancashire)
Match Rating: ★★★

BRIGHTON (0) 1 (Case 67)
NORWICH (0) 0
Att: 28,800
Brighton: Mosley 7, Ramsey 8, Getting 7, Greatsh 7, **★FOSTER** 9, Stevens 7, Case 8, Ritchie 7, Robson 7, Ryan 7, Smilie 7, Norwich: Woods 7, Haycock 7, Downs 7, Mendham 6, Symonds 7, **★WATSON** 9, Barnham 7, Bennett 6, Deehan 6, Bertschin 7, Van Wyk 6 (sub: McGuire 6)
Referee: A. Robinson (Waterloo)
Match Rating: ★★★★

BURNLEY (0) 1 (Case 46)
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (1) 1 (Bannister 37)
Att: 24,000
Burnley: Stevenson 6, Laws 7, Donachie 6, Phelan 7, Dobson 7, **★FLYNN** 8, Cassidy 7, Steven 6, Hamilton 6, Taylor 7, Young 6 (sub: Donovan)
Sheff Wed: **★BOLDER** 8, Sterland 7, Bailey 6, Smith 7, Lyons 7, Shelton 7, Megson 7, Mills 6, Bannister 7 (sub: Pearson 6), McCulloch 7, Heard 7
Referee: G. Tyson (Sunderland)
Match Rating: ★★★★

MATCH FACTS

MANCHESTER UNITED (0) 1 (Stapleton 89)
 EVERTON (0) 0
 Att. 58,192
 Man United: Bailey 6, Duxbury 6 (sub. Macari).
ALBION 8, Moses 7, Moran 6, McQueen 7, Wilks 6, Muhren 6, Stapleton 7, Whiteside 6, Coppell 7.
 Everton: **ARNOLD** 8, Stevens 7, Bailey 7, Ratcliffe 7, Higgins 7, Richardson 7, Irvin 7, McMahon 7, Sharp 7, Heath 7, Sheedy 6.
 Referee: J. B. Worrall (Warrington)
 Match Rating: ★★★★

Division One

COVENTRY (1) 1 (Hunt, pen 24)
 TOTTENHAM (0) 1 (Miller 79)
 Att. 11,004
 Coventry: Sasey 7, Thomas 6, Roberts 6, Butterworth 6, Dyson 7, **GILLESPIE** 8, Thompson 7, Francis 6, Hately 6, Melrose 6, Hunt 6.
 Spurs: Clemence 7, **HUGHTON** 8, O'Reilly 6, Roberts 7, Miller 7, Parryman 7, Galvin 6, Mabbett 7, Gibson 7, Falco 6, Crook 6 (sub. Webster).
 Referee: K. Cooper (Pontypridd)
 Match Rating: ★★

LIVERPOOL (0) 3 (Pike, og 49, Lee 54, Rush 67)
 WEST HAM (0) 0
 Att. 28,511
 Liverpool: Grobbelaar 7, Neal 7, Kennedy 7, Lawrence 8, Whean 7, Hansen 6, Delight 7, Lee 8, **RUSH** 8, Johnston 7, Souness 6, West Ham: Parkes 7, Stewart 6, Lampard 6, Bonds 6, Martin 6, Devonshire 7, Van der Elst 6, Morgan 6, **GODDARD** 8, Allen 6, Pike 6.
 Referee: K. Hackett (Sheffield)
 Match Rating: ★★

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (0) 0
 LUTON (1) 1 (Hill 13)
 Att. 14,387
 Nottingham: Sutton 6, **ANDERSON** 7, Sway 6, Todd 6, Young 5, Bowyer 6, Wilson 6, Walace 6, Birtles 6, Hodge 6, Walsh 6 (sub. Davenport 61).
 Luton: Findlay 7, Stephens 7, Elliott 7, Horton 7, Goodey 8, Donaghy 7, **HILL** 9, White 7, Walsh 8, Turner 7, Moss 6.
 Referee: N. Ashley (Nantwich)
 Match Rating: ★★★

STOKE (0) 0
 SUNDERLAND (0) 1 (Rowell 50)
 Att. 12,806
 Stoke: Fox 7, Parkin 6 (sub. Bould 5), Hampton 6, Bracewell 7, Watson 7, **BERRY** 8, Painter 7, McRoy 6, O'Callaghan 6, Thomas 6, Chamberlain 6, M7.
 Sunderland: **TURNER** 9, Nicholl 7, Munro 7, Atkins 7, Chisholm 7, Pickering 8, Venison 7, Rowell 8, West 7, James 7, Cummins 7.
 Referee: K. Baker (Rugby)
 Match Rating: ★★

SWANSEA (3) 4 (Latchford 8, Walsh 36, 53, James, pen 46)
 MANCHESTER CITY (0) 1 (McDonald 63)
 Att. 9,884
 Swansea: Sanders 8, Marusik 8, Richards 8, Charles 7, Lewis 7, Rajkovic 7, Loveridge 7, **JAMES** 9, Walsh 8 (sub. Gale), Stanley 6, Latchford 7.

MATCH WINNERS

MATTHEW Barker, of Crawley, Sussex, will be spending a week at the National Goalkeeper Centre at Ipswich as a result of winning our February 26 'Spot the Difference' competition.

Ipswich goalkeeper Paul Cooper is a director of the Centre and the following ten runners-up will each receive his Goalkeeper Skill Cards. K. J. Daldry, Woodbridge, Suffolk; Adrian Westwood, Wolverhampton; Duncan McFarlane, Driffield, East Yorks; Mark Hampshire, Clacton; Ian Yates, Liverpool; Owen Vincent, Dawlish, Devon; Richard Machers, Whitley Bay, Mark Doherty, South Tottenham; Timothy Nolan, Harrogate; Andrew Fryatt, Iver, Bucks.

MAN CITY: **CORRIGAN** 7, Golac 8, McDonald 5, Reid 6, Bond 5, Caton 6, Tuerat 6, Reeves 8, Cross 5, Hildersley 5 (sub. May 6), Baker 6.
 Referee: L. C. Shapter (Torquay)
 Match Rating: ★★★★

WATFORD (3) 6 (Blissatt 10, 31, 55, Barnes 45, Calaghan 59)
 NOTTS COUNTY (1) 3 (Christie 2, Worthington 51, Fashanu 79)
 Att. 16,273
 Watford: Sherwood 6, Rice 7, Rostrom 7, Taylor 7, Sims 6, Bolton 7, **CALLAGHAN** 9, Blissatt 8, Barnes 8, Jackett 6 (sub. Lohman 6), Jobson 7.
 Notts County: Leonard 8, Goodwin 5 (sub McParland 6), Worthington 5, Benhamin 5, Ki el ne 6, Richards 8, Chiedozie 6, Fashanu 6, McCullough 6, **CHRISTIE** 7, Clarke 6.
 Referee: R. G. Milford (Bristol)
 Match Rating: ★★★

WEST BROM (2) 4 (Thompson 9, 75, Statham 33, Gannon, og 73)
 IPSWICH (0) 1 (Wark 55)
 Att. 12,892
 West Brom: Barron 6, Webb 7, Statham 8, Zonderman 6, Wile 7, Bennett 7, Whitehead 6, Thompson 8, **REGIS** 9 (sub. Eastoe), Owen 7, Cross 6.
 Ipswich: Cooper 6, **PUTNEY** 8, Gannon 7, Parkin 6, Osman 6, Butcher 6, Wark 6, McCull 6, Mariner 6, Brazil 7, O'Callaghan 7.
 Referee: F. Roberts (Prestatyn)
 Match Rating: ★★★★

Division Two

BOLTON (2) 3 (Doyle 23, Henry 38, Rudge 75)
 QPR (1) 2 (Gregory, pen 44, Sealey 80)
 Att. 6,373
 Bolton: McDonagh 6, Whitworth 7, Deakin 8, Redfern 7, Jones 8, Doyle 8, Chandler 8, Rudge 7, Moore 7, **HENRY** 9, Hoggan 7.
 QPR: Hucker 6, Roeder 7, Dawes 6 (sub. Ferday 61), Waddock 6, Hazel 7, Wicks 6, Steinrod 6, Sealy 6, Allen 5, Flanagan 5, **GREGORY** 8.
 Referee: K. A. Redfern (Whitley Bay)
 Match Rating: ★★★

SENDING OFF: Deakin (Bolton)
 CAMBRIDGE (1) 1 (Spriggs 31)
 GRIMSBY (0) 0
 Att. 3,337
 Cambridge: Webster 7, Donaldson 6, **MURRAY** 8, Turner 7, Fallon 7, Finney 8, O'Neill 6, Spriggs 7, Reilly 6, Mayo 8, Cooke 6.
 Grimsby: Batch 6, Moore 6, B. Crombie 7, Waters 6, **SAXBY** 8, Moore 6, K. 7, Ford 6, Cumming 6, Bonnyman 6, Crosby 8, O'Dell 6.
 Referee: M. J. Taylor (Walmer)
 Match Rating: ★★★

CHELSEA (2) 4 (Walker 29, Burnstead 44, Canoville 55, 89)
 CARLISLE (1) 2 (Lee, pen 18, Height 62)
 Att. 6,677
 Chelsea: Iles 7, Jones 7, Hutchings 6, Burnstead 6, Chivers 7, Peles 7, **FILLERY** 8, Walker 7, Speedie 6, Mayea 8, Canoville 7, Carlisle: Swinburne 7, Parker 6, Height 6, Cough 6, Rushbury 6, Houghton 6 (sub. Lark 6), **STANIFORTH** 8, Craig 7, Lee 7, Bannon 6, Shoulder 7.
 Referee: M. L. James (Horsham)
 Match Rating: ★★★

DERBY (1) 1 (Swindhurst 33)
 WOLVES (0) 1 (Kellock 77)
 Att. 17,644
 Derby: Cherry 8, Barton 6, Buckley 8, **GEMMILL** 9, Powell 7, Fletcher 7, Brolly 6, Davison 7, H. 5, Swindhurst 6, Mills 6, Wolves: Burridge 6, Humphrey 8, Palmer 6, Smith 6, Pender 6, Dodd 6, **HIBBITT** 8, Kellock 7, Gray 7, Eves 6, Matthews 6.
 Referee: R. Bridges (Deeside)
 Match Rating: ★★★

FULHAM (1) 1 (Brown 46)
 CRYSTAL PALACE (0) 0
 Att. 11,234
 Fulham: Peyton 6, Hopkins 5, Lock 5, O'Driscoll 6, Brown 6, Gale 7, Davies 6, Wilson 7, Coney 7 (sub. McDermott 6), **HOUGHTON** 8, Lewington 7, Crystal Palace: Fry 5, Locke 5, Murphy 6, Neblett 6, **CANNON** 7, H. Shielwood 6, Brown 6, Hughton 6, Jones 5, Langley 6, Hilaire 6.
 Referee: D. Letts (Basingstoke)
 Match Rating: ★★★

MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 1 (Sugrue 3)
 ROTHERHAM (0) 1 (Hughes, pen 79)
 Att. 8,875
 Middlesbrough: O'Hanlon 7, Natress 7, Wood 6, Baxter 6, Mowbray 7, Otto 8, Sugrue 7, **KENNEDY** 8, Hankin 6, Shearer 5, Bell 7.
 Rotherham: Mimms 7, Forrest 6, Frier 6, Johnson 6, Hughes 6, Green 6, Towner 7, **GOW** 8, Moore 5, Henson 6, McBride 5.
 Referee: D. Scott (Burnley)
 Match Rating: ★★

NEWCASTLE (1) 2 (Waddle 15, Keegan pen 60)

LEEDS (0) 1 (Connor 70)
 Att. 24,580
 Newcastle: Carr 7, Anderson 7, Wharton 7, Martin 8, Clarke 8, Carney 7, **KEEGAN** 9, McDonald 7, Verardi 7, McDermott 7, Waddle 7.

Leeds: Harvey 7, Aspin 5 (sub. Donnelly 7), Gray 6, Sheridan 6, Hart 7, Dickinson 7, Hirsh 7, Butterworth 8, Connor 8, Burns 7, **GRAHAM** 8.

Referee: N. Midgley (Salford)
 Match Rating: ★★★★

SHREWSBURY (0) 3 (Macrae pen 81, Robinson 64, Pearson 72)

BARNESLEY (1) 1 (Parker 13)
 Att. 4,024
 Shrewsbury: **GRIGOROVIC** 8, Williams 6, Johnson 6, Turner 6, Pearson 7, Stevens 7, Petts 6, MacLaren 7, Brown 7, Robinson 8, Bates 6.

Barnsley: Piera 7, Joyce 6, Chambers 7, Gavin 6, Banks 6, Evans 6 (sub. Souter 8), Law 6, Parker 7, Ronson 6, Campbell 6, **BIRCH** 8.

Referee: J. Hough (Macclesfield)
 Match Rating: ★★★

Division Three

BOURNEMOUTH (1) 4 (Lee 19, Heffernan, pen 34, Morgan 62, 68)

PRESTON (0) 0
 Att. 4,407

Bournemouth: Leigh 7, Heffernan 7, Sulley 6, Spackman 8, Brignull 6, Impay 6, **DAWTRY** 8, Beck 6, Morgan 8, Lee 7, Nightingale 6.

Preston: Hodge 6, Coleman 6, McAteer 6, O'Riordan 5, Westwell 6, Lodge 6, Walsh 6 (sub. Kelly 6), Bruce 7, **ELLIOTT** 8, Naughton 6, Bell 7.

Referee: A. Chickmore (Plymouth)
 Match Rating: ★★★★

BRADFORD (0) 1 (Lampkin 67)

LINCOLN (0) 1 (Burke 85)

Att. 5,026

Bradford: Ramsbottom 6, Abbott 6, Chapman 6, **GRAY** 8, Jackson 7, Cherry 7, McCall 7, Gallagher 8, Campese 18, Black 7, Lampkin 7, Lincoln: **FELGATE** 8, Simmonite 7, Neale 7, Cocker 7 (sub. Hibberd 6), Peake 7, Brazier 7, Burke 6, Strode 6, Hobson 7, Bell 6, Shipton 7.

Referee: R. Guy (Kirkby)
 Match Rating: ★★★★

CHESTERFIELD (0) 3 (Green 57, Hummer, pen 73, 76)

DONCASTER (3) 3 (Walker 31, Austin 36, Russell 43)
 Att. 2,875

Chesterfield: Turner 6, Ballamy 5, O'Neill 6, Kendal 6, Green 6, Pollard 6, **PLUMMER** 8, Athersy 7, Henderson 6, Kowalski 6 (sub. Partridge 6), Windridge 6.

Doncaster: Boyd 6, Russell 6, **SNODIN**, G 8, Snodin 16, Humphries 5, Lister 6, Walker 6, Mell 7, Aust 6, Mann 5, Robertson 6.
 Referee: M. Heath (Stoke)

Match Rating: ★★★★

EXETER (1) 3 (Harle 28, 60, Kellow 61)

OXFORD (1) 1 (Lawrence 40)

Att. 2,957

Exeter: Bond 6, Puller 7, Viney 6, Harle 6, **MARKER** 9, Rogers, M. 7, Neave 7, Rogers, P. 8, Kellow 7, Dave 7, Pratt 5.

Oxford: Hardwick 6, Lawrence 8, Grant 5, Train 6, **BRIGGS** 7, Shotton 6, Brock 6, Whatmore 5, Vinter 6, Hibberd 6, Thomas 5 (sub. Jones 5).
 Referee: G. Nathine (Loughborough)

Match Rating: ★★★

HUDDERSFIELD (0) 3 (Doyle 50, Brown, pen 63, Burke 61)

GILLINGHAM (0) 2 (Duncan 21, Mehmet 83)

Att. 8,264
 Huddersfield: Cox 6, Brown 7, Burke 7, Stanton 6, Sutton 7, Harvey 6, Lillis 6, Doyle 7, **RUSSELL** 8, Wilson 6, Cowling 7.

Gillingham: Hillyard 6, Sutton 6, Adams 6, Bruce 7, Weatherly 6, Tydeman 6, Horrix 7, Johnson 6, Foley 6, **MEHMET** 8, Duncan 6.
 Referee: D. Allinson (Lancaster)
 Match Rating: ★★★

MILLWALL (0) 1 (Lovell 89)

SHEFFIELD UNITED (0) 2 (Trusson 62, Cusack, og 73)

Att. 4,055
 Millwall: Wells 6, Lovell 6, Madden 6, White 6, Roberts 5, Cusack 6, Bremner 7, Neal 6, Aylott 6, **OTULAKOWSKI** 8, Chatterton 6 (sub. Stewart 7), Sheff Utd: **WAUGH** 8 (sub. Brazil), Henderson 7, Gernon 6, Charles 6, West 7, Kenworthy 5, Morris 6, Trusson 6, Edwards 7, Young 7, Curran 7.

Referee: B. Hill (Kettering)
 Match Rating: ★★★

NEWPORT (1) 1 (Aldridge 2)

WIGAN (0) 0

Att. 3,647
 Newport: Kendall 6, Jones 7, Relish 7, Bailey 7, **BOYLE** 8, Stroud 6, Lowndes 7, Aldridge 7, Tynan 6, Vaughan 7, Elsey 6 (sub. Gwyther 8), Wigan: Tunks 6, McMahon 7, Glenn 6, Butler 7, Walsh 6, Methven 6, Lowe 7, Barrow 7, O'Keefe 7, **HOUGHTON** 8, Cribb 6.
 Referee: D. Vickers (Ilford)

Match Rating: ★★★

PORTRSMOUTH (0) 0

CARDIFF (0) 0

Att. 24,354
 Portsmouth: **KNIGHT** 8, Ellis 7, Sullivan 6, Doyle 7, Robbins 6, Aizwood 7, Webb 6, Tali 7, Rafferty 8, Bayley 8, Rogers 6, Cardiff: Steele 7, Jones 6, Muller 7, **TONG** 8, Dwyer 6, Bennett 7, D. Bennett 7, Gibson 7, Hallion 8, Hemmerson 6, Lewis 7.
 Referee: L. Burden (Pole)
 Match Rating: ★★★

READING (0) 1 (Dixon 56)

BRISTOL ROVERS (0) 2 (Withey 78, 82)

Att. 4,270
 Reading: Judge 6, Williams 6, Richardson 6, Beaven 7, **HICKS** 8, White 7, Doherty 6, Price 6, Dixon 6, Bason 6, Sanchez 7, Bristol Rovers: Kite 8, Slaters 6, Williams 6, **WILLIAMS**, G 8, Parkin 8 (sub. Holloway 8), McCaffery 6, Bell 6, Hughes 6, Withey 8, Randall 6, Curle 7.
 Referee: T. J. Holbrook (Wolverhampton)
 Match Rating: ★★

WREXHAM (0) 4 (Keay 64, Buxton 73, Gregory 78, Arkwright 89)

WALSALL (0) 0

Att. 2,748
 Wrexham: Niedzwiecki 7, King 7, Hill 5, Muldoon 7, Downman 7, Kaz 7, Arkwright 7, Buxton 6, Hunt 7, Steel 7, **GREGORY** 9.

MATCH WEEKLY / SUBBUTEO CHAMPIONSHIPS

TEN-year-old Kathryn Leitch became the first girl to compete in the 1983 Match Weekly/Subbuteo National Championships last weekend.

Kathryn, a Match Weekly reader from Dyce, qualified for the Scottish Regional Finals held at Norco in Aberdeen.

Unfortunately, Kathryn lost her First Round match, but only in extra time.

The Final was a keenly contested game between Edward Flett and Shaun Campbell, both from Stonehaven, with Edward eventually hanging on to a one-goal advantage.

Both finalists, along with the losing semi-finalists, John Stephen and Gary Shand, go forward to the Scottish National Finals to be held at Hampden Park on April 10.

Other competitors were: Paul Murphy, Craig Smith, Stephen Blair, Stuart Reid, Richard Lind, Gordon Shand, Andrew Duncan, Darren Royston, Bruce Henderson, Christie Gray, Darren Taylor, Michael McMonagle, Scott Marshall, Kevin Farquhar, Matthew Robertson, Stephen Innes and Paul Munro.

Cut out and keep

MATCHFACTSMATCHFACTS

Walsall: Green 7, Caswell 6, Mower 6, Beech 6, Sinnott 5, Hart 5, Jones 5, **PREECE** 8, Kearns 6, Buckley 6 (sub. Shakespeare 5). O'Kelly 6
Referee: D. Hutchinson (Harrogate) replaced by J. W. Brown (Sale) after 45 minutes
Match Rating: **★★★**

Division Four

BLACKPOOL (0) 2 (Noble 49, Hetzke 70)
PORTVALE (0) 0
Att. 4,519
Blackpool: Hesford 7, Bardsley 7, Pritchett 6 (sub. Jeffrey 6), Deary 7, Hetzke 7, **GREENHAL** 8, Hockaday 7, McNiven 7, Stewart 7, Noble 7, Pashley 7
Port Vale: Poole 7, Tarrett 7, Bromage 7, **HUNTER** 8, Sproson 7, Cegie 6, Fox 6, Moss 6, Newton 6, Ridley 7 (sub. Shankland 6), Armstrong 7
Referee: T. Mills (Barnsley)
Match Rating: **★★**

BRISTOL CITY (1) 2 (Crawford 41, Riley 63)
ALDERSHOT (0) 0
Att. 4,239
Bristol City: Shaw 7, Newman 7, Williams 8, Nicholson 7, Phillips 7, Masters 6, Riley 7, Smith 6, Kelly 7, Cooper 7, Musker 7, **CRAWFORD** 8
Aldershot: Johnson 7, Andruszewski 6, Gillard 7, **BRILEY** 8, Whitlock 6, Jopling 7, Shrubbs 6, Banton 7, Goddard 6, McDonald 7, Robinson 7
Referee: A. Gunn (Burgess Hill)
Match Rating: **★★★**

COLCHESTER (2) 2 (Allison 37, Bowen 45)
BURY (0) 1 (Potts 84)
Att. 3,357
Colchester: Walker 6, Cook 6, Longhorn 7, McDonough 7, Wignall 6, Coleman 6, Allison 8, **OSBORNE** 9, Bowen 7, Adcock 6, Hull 7
Bury: Brown 6, Gardner 6, Breckin 7, **GORE** 8, Bramhall 6, Helliday 7, Finch 6 (sub. Cutler 6), Parker 7, Johnson 6, Jakub 6, Potts 7
Referee: M. Dibblebee (Stevenage)
Match Rating: **★★★★**

DARLINGTON (0) 0
MANSFIELD (0) 0
Att. 952
Darlington: Cuff 6, **KAMARA** 7, Wilson, H 6 (sub. Wakefield 6), Smith 5, Wilson, G 6, Honour 5, Gilbert 4, McLean 6, Todd 6, Walsh 5, McDonald 5
Mansfield: Arnold 6, Blackhall 5, Kennedy 4, Matthews 5, **AYRE** 7, Calderwood 5, Woodhead 5, Bell 4, Dungworth 6, Caldwell 5, Nicholson 6
Referee: A. Banks (Manchester)
Match Rating: *****
Sendings Off: Matthews and Nicholson (Mansfield)

HARTEPOOL (0) 2 (Staff 47, Linacre 71)
YORK (0) 0
Att. 1,604
Hartlepool: Blackburn 7, Brown 7, Stimpson 6, Robinson 7, Bird 7, Lingham 8, Lowe 6, Smith 6, **LINACRF** 9, Dobson 6, Staff 8, York: Astbury 6, Evans 6, Hay 6, Stragia 5, Smith 5, Hood 7, Ford 6, Crosby 6, **WALWYN** 8, Byrne 5, Pollard 7
Referee: P. A. Tidesley (Stockport)
Match Rating: **★★★**

HULL (0) 0
TRANMERE (0) 1 (Ferguson 77)
Att. 7,198
Hull: Norman 6, McNeil 6, Askew 7, Roberts 6, Skipper 7, Booth 6, Marwood 5, **MCCLAREN** 8, Flounders 6 (sub. Whitehurst 6), Mutrie 5, Roberts, G 8
Transmere: Adkins 7, **WILLIAMS** 8, G. B.
Burgess 6, Oliver 7, Mungall 7, Williams, J 7, Ferguson 6, Aspinall 5, Brown 6, Wellings 7, Griffths 6
Referee: A. Saunders (Newcastle)
Match Rating: **★★★**

PETERBOROUGH (0) 2 (Gynn 77, Clarke 86)
NORTHAMPTON (0) 0
Att. 3,778
Peterborough: Naylor 6, Carmichael 6, Collins 6, Gynn 7, Firm 7, Slack 6, **CLARKE** 8, Linton 6, Chard 7, Benjamin 6, Ippolito 6
Northampton: Kandal 7, Tucker 6, Phillips 6, **GAGE** 8, Sanders 6, Sexby 6, Buchanan 6, Sandy 7, Muir 5, Massey 6, Syrett 5
Referee: A. Challinor (Rotherham)
Match Rating: **★★★**

ROCHDALE (1) 4 (French 44, 56, 84, Thompson 63)
HEREFORD (0) 1 (Maddy 82)
Att. 2,000

Rochdale: Pearce 6, Greaves 6, Snookes 7, Farrell 7, McElhinney 7, Taylor 7, Thompson, D 7, Thompson, S 6, **FRENCH** 8, Greenhoff 7 (sub. Hilditch 6), Martnez 7
Hereford: Rose 6, Spring 6, Bartley 7, **HICKS** 8, Pejic 7, Maddie 6, Harvey 8, Lane 6, Phillips 8, Carter 6, White 7
Referee: C. N. Seal (Carlisle)
Match Rating: **★★★**

SCUNTHORPE (1) 2 (Hunter 28, 50)
TORQUAY (0) 0
Att. 3,342
Scunthorpe: Neenan 7, Keeley 6, Pointon 6, Reid 6, Balmer 7, **HUNTER** 8, O'Brien 6, Carmack 7, Cowling 7 (sub. Graham 6), Parkinson 7, Leman 7
Torquay: Horn 6, Smith 6, Young 6, Weston 7, Little 7, Riach 6, Jones 7, Carter 6 (sub. Bishop 6), **COOPER** 8, Anderson 6, Gallagher 6
Referee: L. M. Robinson (Sutton Coldfield)
Match Rating: **★★**

SWINDON (1) 2 (Rowland 42, Rideout 75)
CHESTER (1) 3 (Sloan 38, Thomas 64, 89)
Att. 3,238
Swindon: Allan 5, Henry 5, Baddeley 6, Emmanuel 6, Lewis 7, Graham 6, Pritchard 7, Blacker 5, **RIDEOUT** 8, Rowland 7, Barnard 6
Chester: **HARRINGTON** 8, Needham 7, Lane 7, Storson 7, Zelen 7, Blackie 16, Sloan 7, Mann 6, Thomas 7, Simpson 7, Williams 8
Referee: A. Gunn (Burgess Hill)
Match Rating: **★★★**

SCOTTISH
Scottish Cup, Fifth Round

AIRDRIE (0) 0
ST MIRRIN (2) 5 (Stark 3, 60, 89)
McAvennie 7, Scanlon, pen 56)
Att. 8,000
CELTIC (1) 4 (MacLeod 12, McGarvey 53, Nicholas 67, 81)

HEARTS (0) 1 (MacDonald 88)
Att. 25,458
Sendings Off: Johnston (Hearts)

PARTICK (0) 1 (MacDonald 64)
ABERDEEN (1) 2 (Cooper 4, Weir 72)
Att. 12,092

QUEENS PARK (0) 1 (Gilmour pen 62)
RANGERS (2) 2 (Daizel 15, Cooper 43)
Att. 13,716

Premier Division

DUNDEE UNITED (1) 5 (Gough 29, 50, Reilly 82, Hegarty 84, Dodds 89)
DUNDEE (0) 3 (Ferguson, pen 52, Kidd 69, Fraser 74)
Att. 13,433
Dundee Utd: McAlpine 5, **GOUGH** 7, Malpas 5, Stark 6, Hegarty 6, Narey 5, Bannon 6, Milne 5 (sub. Reilly), Sturrock 6, Dodds 6 (sub. Holt)
Dundee: Geddes 5 (sub. Mackie 6), McGechan 5, McKimmie 5, **FRASER** 7, Smith 6, MacDonald 6, Ferguson 5, Bell 5 (sub. McLellan 5), Sinclair 6, Scrimgeour 5, Kidd 6
Referee: K. Hope (Glasgow)
Match Rating: **★★★★**

MOTHERWELL (2) 3 (Refferty 32, McClair 37, Mauchlen 52)
KILMARNOCK (0) 1 (McGivern 82)
Att. 2,895
Motherwell: Walker 6, Dorman 6, MacLeod 7, Forbes 7, Edvaresson 6, Mauchlen 7, Gehagen 6, Rafferty 7 (sub. Cooney 6), Harrow 6, **McCLAIR** 8, O'Hara 7 (sub. Clinging)
Kilmarnock: **MCULLOCH** 8, Coburn 5, Clark, R 6, Clark, J 6, McDicken 5 (sub. McLean 5), Clarke 6, McGivern 7, MacLeod 5 (sub. Bryson 5), Bourke 6, Simpson 7, Gallagher 6
Referee: A. Waddle (Edinburgh)
Match Rating: **★★★**

First Division

CLYDEBANK (2) 6 (Coyle 5, Bo. Given, pen 28, McGhee 56, McCabe 72, Williamson 75)
ST JOHNSTONE (1) 1 (Morton pen 12)
Att. 837

DUMBARTON (0) 1 (Close 69)
DUNFERMLINE (1) 3 (McCarthy 38, Forrest 68, Hamil 80)
Att. 500

FALKIRK (1) 2 (Mackin 34, Houston 48)
AYR (0) 0
Att. 1,200

Second Division

COWDENBEATH (2) 3 (Oliver 5, Scott 14, Gibson 62)
EAST STIRLING (0) 1 (Jack 49)
Att. 300

BERWICK (0) 1 (Romanes 72)
BRECHIN (0) 1 (Paterson 66)
Att. 621

FORFAR (1) 2 (McDonald 44, McPhee 47)
STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 2 (Buchanan 82, Murray 89)
Att. 945

MONTROSE (0) 0
ARBROATH (0) 3 (Harley 63, 76, Lees 89)
Att. 400

STIRLING (0) 1 (Steedman 79)
ALBION (0) 2 (Evans 62, Main 74)
Att. 850

STRANRAER (0) 0
MEADOWBANK (0) 2 (Smith 76, Sprott, pen 89)
Att. 350

LEAGUE TABLES

Division One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	30	14	2	0	50	13	7	4	3	23	11	63
Watford	30	12	2	1	37	11	5	2	8	18	23	55
Man Utd	29	9	5	0	25	6	5	4	6	14	17	51
Aston Villa	30	12	2	2	35	14	3	1	10	20	25	48
Nottingham Forest	30	9	3	3	24	11	4	4	7	18	26	46
West Brom	31	8	5	2	30	14	3	6	7	12	23	44
Coventry	30	10	4	2	26	9	2	3	9	14	30	43
Southampton	30	9	3	3	26	14	3	4	8	14	30	43
Ipswich	30	8	2	2	28	17	3	0	8	19	20	41
Everton	30	8	5	1	30	14	3	3	10	16	24	41
West Ham	29	9	2	4	31	17	4	0	10	14	28	41
Tottenham	30	9	4	2	32	13	2	4	9	8	20	41
Sheffield	30	9	3	3	28	17	3	2	10	15	30	43
Walsall	32	9	2	5	28	19	3	2	11	17	38	40
Sunderland	30	7	5	2	25	15	3	4	12	20	29	39
Arsenal	28	7	4	3	22	14	3	4	7	12	20	38
Man City	32	8	5	3	23	15	2	3	11	17	39	38
Luton	29	6	4	2	24	21	4	4	7	24	36	45
Swansea	31	8	2	5	25	17	0	5	11	15	30	31
Nottingham	29	7	2	5	20	13	1	4	10	11	35	30
Brighton	30	6	5	4	19	16	1	2	12	9	40	27
Wimbledon	28	5	5	4	19	17	0	7	7	5	22	27

Division Three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portsmouth	34	12	2	2	31	14	8	5	5	24	20	67
Cardiff	34	12	3	1	31	13	7	1	7	28	22	64
Huddersfield	33	11	5	0	44	14	6	4	7	22	24	60
Bristol R	33	13	2	2	45	14	5	3	8	26	27	59
Lincoln	33	13	0	4	44	15	5	5	6	19	22	59
Newport	34	10	6	2	32	15	7	2	7	27	25	59
Oxford	32	8	7	0	32	15	7	1	9	22	24	53
Plymouth	33	13	1	3	31	16	3	4	9	19	33	53
Southend	33	9	5	4	35	23	4	3	8	14	20	47
Bradford	34	9	6	2	33	20	3	5	9	19	34	47
Sheff Utd	31	11	3	3	32	14	2	4	8	11	25	46
Wrexham	34	10	4	3	31	12	1	8	14	36	45	45
Wigan	34	9	2	7	30	28	4	3	9	20	24	44
Brentford	34	11	2	4	41	21	1	5	11	23	33	43
Bournemouth	34	7	4	5	25	14	4	4	10	19	42	42
Exeter	36	9	4	5	38	19	1	7	10	25	50	41
Walsall	33	9	4	4	23	15	1	6	9	17	35	40
Reading	36	8	6	5	30	23	1	8	9	22	42	40
Gillingham	34	7	3	6	26	24	3	6	9	15	24	39
Orient	33	8	4	5	31	29	3	1	12	11	40	38
Chesterfield	34	6	5	2	37	12	5	3	9	17	26	51
Doncaster	34	5	8	4	35	33	2	2	13	14	37	31
Preston	33	4	9	2	21	13	2	1	15	18	46	28
Millwall	33	6	6	4	26	21	0	4	13	13	43	28

Division Two

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hull	35	11	6	1	41	11	8	5	4	20	16	68
Wimbledon	33	10	3	2	36	20	9	6	4	27	17	65
Port Vale	33	12	2	3	27	10	7	5	4	23	15	65
Bury	36	11	4	3	35	14	6	6	8	24	20	61
Colchester	34	13	4	0	37	12	5	3	9	26	35	57
Scunthorpe	33	12	2	1	43	16	2	7	9	18	30	51
York	33	12	2	1	43	16	2	7	9	18	30	51
Swindon	32	10	2	3	32	15	4	6	7	11	19	50
Peterborough	33	9	4	4	24	14	3	6	7	14	17	46
Chester	35	7	3	6	24	20	6	4	7	21	24	46
Halifax	34	7	5	5	24	17	5	4	8	21	28	45
Stockport	35	8	5	3	31	23	3	3	12	18	41	44

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THE LUCK OF THE DEVILS



Robert Brimicombe with some of his favourite Manchester United programmes.

ASK THE EXPERT

MARK Bardsley, of Hyde, Cheshire, has asked us to value two programmes from 1979.

They feature the European Cup Semi-Final, Second Leg, between Ajax and Nottingham Forest and the friendly international between Bulgaria and England.

The Bulgarian programme is valued around £1.25, while the Ajax one is worth around 85p.

■ JASON Reacher, of Chester-Le-Street, County Durham, has recently acquired

PROGRAMME FAIRS

Sunday, March 20 —

BARNET, The Social Club, Underhill, Barnet, Herts (10.30 am to 2 pm).

Sunday, March 27 —

PORTSMOUTH FC, The Jimmy Dickinson Room, Fratton Park, Portsmouth (10.30 am to 2 pm).

Sunday, April 3 — TAUNTON FC, The Social Club, Wordsworth Drive, Taunton, Somerset (10.30 am to 2 pm).

Programme Fair organisers are asked to contact 'Match Weekly' immediately in the event of cancellations. Readers are advised to check before travelling.

LOOK OUT FOR A SUPER COMPETITION . . . NEXT WEEK

IT was Manchester United fan Robert Brimicombe's lucky day when the 'Red Devils' suffered a European ban five years ago.

The club were ordered to play their Cup Winners' Cup 'home' tie against St Etienne 200 miles from Old Trafford, because of crowd trouble the previous season.

And they chose Home Park in Robert's home town of Plymouth!

It provided long-distance supporter Robert with his shortest trip to date . . . and as an added bonus, United won 2-0 to reach the Second Round.

Twenty-three-year-old Robert has supported United from his early school days and has collected more than 1,000 programmes.

And the highlight for Robert came in October 1972 when he paid his first-ever visit to Old Trafford.

"It was for the game against Tottenham, who ended up

winning the match 4-1 with Martin Peters getting all four goals," he recalls.

"But what made it special for me was that on the Monday, I went back to the ground and collected the autographs of the United team including players like Bobby Charlton, Denis Law, George Best and Martin Buchan.

"The following day was my 13th birthday so it was quite a special present for me."

It was at that point that Robert started collecting United programmes.

He has every United home programme since the war and every away programme from 1959-60.

"I suppose my collection is worth between £2,000 and £3,000," he says.

Apart from that Tottenham programme, he has two other significant ones in his collection.

"My favourites are the 1957-58 FA Cup programme against Sheffield Wednesday which was the first match after the Munich Air Disaster, and the 1934 clash with Millwall which United had to win to avoid relegation to the Third Division.

"That was the lowest United had ever been in the League, but they managed to win 2-0 and so stay up in Division Two."

His oldest United programme is a 1910-11 game at Liverpool, while a visit from Aston Villa in 1913-14 is his earliest Old Trafford programme.

"I also have a 1946-47 programme when only 8,000 turned up at Old Trafford for a 1-1 draw with Stoke, the lowest post-war attendance at the ground."

But Robert doesn't get to Old Trafford now as much as he would like. "I manage four or five trips a season when I travel with the nearby Torbay branch of the United Supporters Club.

"I would like to go more often, but it's expensive and I work most Saturday mornings."

SWOPS

OFFER: Six Middlesbrough programmes for each one sent.

WANTS: Middlesbrough v Liverpool (1970-71 friendly), Middlesbrough v Burnley (1970-71 friendly), Middlesbrough v Hibernian (1971-72 friendly), Grantham v Middlesbrough (1973-74 FA Cup), Peterborough v Middlesbrough (1978-79 FA Cup), South Australia v Middlesbrough (1977-78 friendly) and Middlesbrough v Man United (1971-72 FA Cup replay). Stephen Cockburn, 35 Ravenscroft, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, Cleveland

OFFER: 1978 Scotland v England, 1978 Scottish Cup Final (Rangers v Aberdeen), 1981 Scottish League Cup Final (Rangers v Dundee United), 1979 Scottish Cup Semi-Final (Partick v Rangers), Rangers v Dukla (Cup Winners' Cup, 1981) and three Rangers home programmes from different years.

WANTS: Four different programmes of English teams against European opposition. Ronald Falconer, 126 Ainslie Road, Kildrum, Cumbernauld.

BACK ROW (left to right) — **Everton**
Carr, Keith Nobbs, Tony Smith, **Malcolm**
Goodman, David Pearce (no longer
playing), **Mark Greenway**,
MIDDLE ROW — **Alan Sutton**
(physiotherapist), **Jimmy Halli Bone**,
David Evans, **Martin Nuttal**, **Lee Smelt**,
Mick Wood, **Stephen Ward**, **Paul Kandul**,
Brian Handy (trainer).

FRONT ROW — **Bobby Deviston** (now
with Derby), **Steve Spooner**, **Mick**
Bullock (manager), **Dave Staniforth**,
Paul Hendrie.

INSET: **Vernon Allatt**.

W

h

alifax





**DEAN
CONEY
FULHAM**

SO the bosses of TV refuse to meet the demands of football chairmen for more cash for televised soccer. I just hope these people realise they will break the hearts of thousands if soccer is banished from our screens next season.

I speak of those who are in hospital or can't get out of bed and go to a match. I know from personal experience that they would be on the terraces cheering their favourite team if they could, and if BBC and ITV stop showing soccer, they are going to be very unhappy.

The TV chiefs say they have no more money, but if they stopped importing American rubbish and showed less boring repeats perhaps they could meet the asking price.

I, for one, would be very unhappy if soccer disappeared from TV.

Wayne Taylor, Ashford, Middlesex

I WOULD like to congratulate 'Match' on its consistently high standards. However, I must question your 'Match Facts' claim that you have a representative at every match, particularly with regard to the recent game between Lincoln and Portsmouth.

Lincoln keeper David Felgate was rated five out of ten (off-form) but, in fact, Portsmouth's three goals were caused by defensive errors and Felgate actually saved Lincoln from a heavier defeat by stopping two 'certain goals'.

Although Lincoln are going through a bad patch at the moment, aggravated by an unsupportive and unambitious board — which recently resigned en bloc — I would like to wish the City lads all the luck in the world as they bid for promotion and thank them for some entertaining football this season.

Linda Hodson, North Hykeham, Lincoln.

• I ASSURE you that 'Match' has a representative at every League and Cup match. And if our man thought that David Felgate was off-form in the 3-0

TERRACE TALK

WELCOME to the best read letters page in football... with unique prizes for every reader who gets his or her letter published.

Yes, throughout the season we'll be giving away a super metal lapel badge (pictured) to every person whose comments are published in 'Match' and each badge will carry that special 'Terrace Talk' logo.

It's a prize that money can't buy and one could be yours!

Plus we will be giving a prize of £10 for what we consider to be the star letter of the week and, of course, the sender will also receive a 'Terrace Talk' badge.

So get those letters coming in NOW and you could be the envy of your friends.

Write to: Michael Weavers, 'Terrace Talk' Editor, Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.



David Felgate — deserved better marks in 'Match' says Linda Hodson.

beating by Portsmouth, then, in his opinion, he was.

AS a Manchester United fan, I was as choked as anybody to see Bryan Robson stretchered off against Arsenal in the Milk Cup Semi-Final.

No disrespect to Bryan, but lately United have been referred to in the press as 'The Bryan Robson XI' or 'Bryan Robson and ten others'.

I honestly believe Ray Wilkins will do a great job as skipper in Bryan's absence and that United's results will not suffer. After all, we seem to forget who was the supporters' 'Player of the Season' last year... Ray Wilkins.

T. Howard, Enfield, Middlesex

I WAS amazed to read that England manager Bobby Robson said that he would drop anyone who didn't "play their guts out" in the match with Wales.

This is the worst possible attitude to take and was rightly criticised by his Welsh counterpart, Mike England.

I was also very surprised by Robson's choice of captain in the absence of Bryan Robson. Surely an experienced outfield player — like Phil Neal or Paul Mariner — would have been a better choice than Peter Shilton.

Colin Pogue, Rainham, Kent.

I MUST congratulate Celtic on the amazing record of having been top of the Scottish Premier Division for 25 months, although this magnificent run was ended by Aberdeen when they won 3-1 at Celtic Park.

A team that can top their division for over two years must be regarded as the best in Britain — better even than Liverpool.

Paul Curran, Larkhall, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

• IT'S where you finish at the end of the season that counts. And whereas Liverpool will finish Champions again, there's no guarantee that Celtic will.

TOO much televised soccer is just another feeble excuse from football chiefs for the problem of falling attendances.

The real reasons for the drop in fans are hooliganism, expensive admission prices and bad facilities.

And it's about time the authorities realised that the entertainment — if you can call it that — being served up is just not good enough.

Andrew Farmer (15), Leyton, London.

WELL DONE Gordon Cowans! I thought the Aston Villa midfielder made a fine first appearance at senior level for England in the British Championship win over Wales.

He was always trying to get into the action, playing deft one-two's with the strikers and it was thanks to him that England won the penalty that resulted in England beating the Welsh 2-1.

Steven Opie, Rugeley, Staffs.

IT'S not often that Brian Clough is proved wrong but Justin Fashanu's free-scoring exploits with Notts County make me wonder why the Nottingham Forest boss tried so hard to get rid of the big striker.



Justin Fashanu — proving Brian Clough wrong, says Michael MacHale.

Justin looks like recapturing the sparkle he showed when he led the Norwich City attack. It's good that he can put the barren years at Forest behind him.

Michael MacHale, Cabinteely, Eire.

I READ in 'Terrace Talk' that one reader thought that the reward for having a letter published was too small. If that's what he thought, he shouldn't have written!

No other soccer magazine offers an original badge for every letter published or a 'tanner' for the star letter of the week.

Christian Counsell, Gorleston, Great Yarmouth.

I AM a German boy interested in English soccer. I read your excellent football magazine and I especially like the Match Facts, which give me all the information I need.

I also like International Hotline, but I am surprised you do not do more on European football. Don't you think it would be interesting for English fans to know more about the game in other countries?

For example, you could publish league tables once a month. And you might publish special reports about soccer in Germany and other countries.

Perhaps you should start an enquiry by publishing my letter to find out what your readers would think of such a service.

Thomas Kornfeld, Bremen, West Germany.

• Well, what do you think? Write and let me know.

BARCELONA SHOULD BE BANNED



AFTER seeing the total lack of sportsmanship and the horrific foul play of the Barcelona players against Tottenham last season and against Aston Villa in this year's Super Cup Final, I was disgusted to find that UEFA have not imposed a ban on this so-called football team.

I expected the Spanish club to be banned for at least two years from European cup football, but, instead, they were merely warned and fined £20,000 — about 5 per cent of their usual match receipts.

Barcelona kicked their way to victory in the European Cup Winners' Cup last season and only lost the Super Cup due to the determination of a courageous Villa side.

Isn't it enough having hooliganism on the terraces without behaviour of this sort from players?

Many Spanish and Italian teams think that the only way to win a match is to kick their opponents off the park. A ban from European football would encourage them to change their tactics.

Nicola Mack, Crumpsall, Manchester.

VINTAGE DALGLISH

KENNY IS MY PLAYER OF THE YEAR

The brilliant Liverpool striker has received my vote in the Professional Footballers' Association poll — the results of which will be revealed a week on Sunday.

Like good wine, 32-year-old Kenny appears to mature with age, and he has been inspirational this season in Liverpool's dynamic surge towards yet another Championship.

On current form, he must be rated among the best strikers in the world.

It is difficult to draw comparisons with other top class strikers, particularly those from South America, who you only see in the World Cup.

From what I saw in last year's World Cup Finals, Brazil's Zico stood out a mile, but Kenny would certainly feature high among the list of strikers on the European circuit.

You are not allowed to vote for your own club-mates in the ballot, but I hope that Arsenal goalkeeper Pat Jennings is well to the fore.

He is still a goalkeeping genius at the age of 37 and, despite having played more than 1,000 first class games, he still retains the same enthusiasm and makes the job seem so easy.

It's obvious that Liverpool players will figure prominently in the awards, with skipper Graeme Souness and talented defender Alan Hansen as possible winners of the coveted trophy.

And over at Manchester United, the claims of new England skipper Bryan Robson and winger Steve Coppell can't be ignored, although it would be embarrassing for Steve if he collected the award with him being Chairman of the PFA!

My selection for the 'Young Player of the Year' award is Luton striker Paul Walsh.

He has made a successful transition from Second to First Division football and looks sharp, skilful, brave and enthusiastic.

Another youngster who has caught my eye is Brighton defender Gary Stevens. He has come on in leaps and bounds over the past two seasons.

And, of course, you can't overlook Liverpool's scoring machine Ian Rush, although it's difficult to believe he's so young. He seems to have been the scourge of First Division defences for ages!

I think there's a fair chance that Ian would get a place in the Arsenal team at present!

We could certainly do with some of his firepower at Highbury with Arsenal having their worst season in the First Division for seven years.

We haven't been out of the top eight for the past six seasons, but we are facing an uphill



struggle to keep that sequence going.

We've failed to score in three of our last four League matches and, in the goalless draws with West Brom and Nottingham Forest, you could count the chances on one hand.

It would be an easy way out to pin the blame on the strikers.

We're simply not creating enough chances and that's the responsibility of everybody in the team.

We have enough talent and potential at Highbury to be a lot higher in the table, and that's why it is so frustrating to find us way out of the reckoning.

It's about time we lived up to our potential and started winning things again.

I often reflect on what might have been were players like Frank Stapleton and Liam Brady still in the side.

We never did see the full potential of the Arsenal team of the 1979-1980 period, with Liam



THE GRAHAM RIX COLUMN

The Arsenal midfielder writes just for you and only in 'Match' — don't miss his column every fortnight.

and Frank being allowed to drift away from the club. They are two world class players and can't be replaced.

Frank is one of the best strikers in the country, and you couldn't replace him if you had £1 million.

Liam is a one-off player, and some of the younger players in the Arsenal side don't realise what an influence he was at Highbury.

I would love to see Frank and Liam in an Arsenal side lining up alongside newcomers like Tony Woodcock, Vladimir Petrovic and Kenny Sansom.

Arsenal are still feared and respected, although we are not likely to turn the world up side down at the moment.

The current crop of young talent is learning all the time and I hope this team can stay together for three or four years to fulfil its potential.

It's simply a question of being patient, although I feel sorry for the supporters who pay good money in the hope of seeing a successful side.

In mentioning new players, Yugoslav international Vladimir Petrovic is having his problems in settling down to English football.

It's a shame that he wasn't here at the start of the season when his confidence might have been boosted on good pitches without the hurly-burly of FA Cup football.

He has had little chance to express himself and parade his considerable talents in the cut and thrust world of cup football on icy and muddy pitches.

He has certainly tried hard to increase his work rate and defensive qualities, and I'm still convinced that he could develop into one of the best foreign imports.

● Graham Rix was talking to Melvyn Beck.

REPORTER Melvyn Beck spotlights soccer's 'wandering star' . . . the man who has played for five teams in as many months.

SOCER'S 'Loan Ranger' has found a new home at last.

After loan spells with three different clubs, former Colchester striker Kevin Bremner has ended his nomadic existence and settled down with Third Division Millwall.

His £20,000 move to London concluded quite a remarkable five months of wandering for the 25-year-old brother of Aston Villa star Dunc.

In that time, he played in five different teams in three separate divisions!

His record, up to the end of last month, read: Ten games for Colchester in the Fourth Division (two goals), four for Birmingham in the First (1

goal), four for Wrexham in the Third (1 goal), six for Plymouth in the Third (1 goal) and one for Millwall in the Third Division.

He changed clubs so quickly and so often that when he turned out for Millwall at Plymouth, his name actually appeared in the Plymouth team in the programme — having been at Home Park on loan only a few days before!

"I don't know whether it's a compliment to me that so many clubs have been interested in me, or whether I have been used through the loan system," says Kevin, a £25,000 signing from Highland League Keith in October 1980.

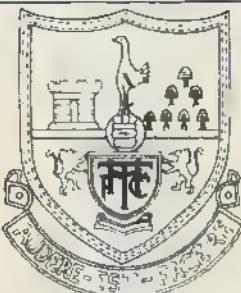
"I believe that both Wrexham and Plymouth wanted to sign me, but hadn't got the money Colchester were asking. Lincoln were also in the same boat.

"I think that £20,000 was a bit much to ask for me. Colchester dropped £90,000 when selling Trevor Lee to Bournemouth earlier this season, but were only



Kevin Bremner — remarkable five months.

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prepared to lose £5,000 on me."

Leading scorer at Colchester for the past two seasons, Kevin made it known at the start of this campaign that he wanted a higher grade of football.

"I didn't feel that Colchester were ambitious enough for me, and I wanted to play at a higher level," he says.

"I only hope I don't find myself back in the Fourth Division with Millwall next season.

"Manager George Graham is ambitious enough for me, and I hope that during my two-year contract I can help them back into the Second Division.

"It's been an experience travelling round the country and playing with different clubs, but I wanted to settle down because my wife expects our first baby in the summer."

"I know I scored in the First Division in a 1-1 draw at Nottingham Forest in October, but my ambitions don't go beyond the Second Division at the moment.

"Birmingham manager Ron Saunders told me at the time that he didn't think I was quite good enough for the First, but would score goals in the lower divisions.

"I think I came into football too late, at the age of 23, to think about playing regularly at that level, but at least I have scored a goal in the First, and that's more than a lot of players have achieved."

I WOULD like a penpal from the United Kingdom or France. I am 29 years old and like painting and music. George Kizyridis, Str. Lascaratou 3, Salonica, Greece.

I WOULD like to write to any football supporter in Great Britain. I am also interested in exchanging pennants and other football souvenirs. Kai-Uwe Bandtel, Schumannstrasse 13, 7470 Albstadt - 1, W. Germany.

LIVERPOOL, Watford, Aberdeen and Borussia Monchengladbach are my favourite teams. I would like male and female pen-pals from Eire or Scotland who support one of those teams and is about my age (14). Annette Nienhaus, 6360 Friedberg 5, Klausenstr. 34, W. Germany.

I'M a 15-year-old Liverpool supporter and I'd like a penpal of my own age who supports either Fulham or West Brom. My favourite players are Gordon Davies and Gary Owen. Richard Sullivan, 49 Lee Crescent, Ormskirk, Lancs L39 1PG.

I'D like a pen pal who supports Manchester City and regularly watches games at Maine Road. Mikko Patovirta, Savilahdenk SAI, 50100 Mikkeli 10, Finland.

WEST Ham are my favourite team and I'd like a male pen pal of my own age who supports 'The Hammers'. Sue MacDonald (15), 490 Upper Brentwood Road, Gidea Park, Romford, Essex RM2 6JA.

I'D like a pen pal who supports any League team — my favourites are Second Division promotion chasers Wolves. Andrew Keane (15), 20 Raymond Close, Leamore, Walsall, West Midlands WS2 7AG.

SPURS are my top team and Glenn Hoddle is my favourite player. I'd like a pen pal of my own ago. I also like Shakin' Stevens. Mark Jones (9), 9 Ridley Avenue, Blyth, Northumberland NE24 3EA.

I'M 14-years-old and I'd like a pen pal who supports either Liverpool, Manchester United or Nottingham Forest. Yusuf Manuel, 20 Dane Road, Queens Park West, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, Africa.

I'M an 18-year-old Villa fan and would like a penfriend who supports the current European Champions. Cheryl Perry, 88 Pleasant View, Watstown, Rhondda, Mid-Glamorgan CF33 0PN.

I'D like a pen pal who supports Juventus or any other Italian team. I am 13-years-old. Joanne Nappo, 1 First Avenue, Tottington, Bury, Lancs.

I AM a 13-year-old Liverpool fan and Kenny Dalglish and Ian Rush are my favourite players. I would like a male pen pal of my own age who goes to Anfield regularly. Bhekwayo Phiri, PO Box 362, Blantyre, Malawi, Central Africa.

Pen pals



MAGIC MARIO

AS Mario Ippolito faced the grim prospect of life on the dole, he dreamed of a career in professional football.

Now that dream has come true and the youngster has the Government's Youth Opportunities Programme to thank for his dramatic change of fortune.

It was through the jobs scheme that Mario joined Fourth Division Peterborough United on a six-month trial.

That was two years ago and now the 18-year-old striker is the new hero of London Road following a sparkling start to his first team career.

"I still can't believe it is happening ... it's a dream come true," says Mario, who scored on his debut and then found the net twice in his second outing for 'Posh'.

"I have been here over two years but everything happened within the space of a week. I just hope things continue to go well for me and I can keep my place in the side."

Mario's big break came when he was picked for Peterborough's home game against Tranmere.

He was seen as the ideal replacement for striker Robbie Cooke who had just left London Road in a £15,000 deal with Cambridge United.

But even with the departure of Robbie, Mario did not expect to make the team. "It came as a real surprise," he says.

"For the first 25 minutes of the game against Tranmere I was really nervous, but the other players kept talking to me and helped calm me down."

"From then on I really enjoyed it and to score on my debut was just too good to be true."

It was a goal he remembers vividly. "The ball came out of defence and Ian Benjamin knocked it through to me," he recalls. "I only had the keeper to beat but my shot struck his chest."

"Thankfully the ball came back to

me and I stuck away the rebound ... it was a great moment."

The goal gave Mario a lot of confidence and it showed in his second game away at Halifax, when he helped his side to victory with a double-goal blast.

"I was a lot more relaxed on the night and really pleased with my performance."

Mario has supported 'Posh' all his life. "I used to come to London Road regularly and at one time Bobby Doyle and David Gregory were my favourite players.

"I had always wanted to be a professional footballer but I never thought it would happen, even though I played for Peterborough boys and represented the county."

It was during a game for Cambridgeshire that Mario's talent impressed a watching scout from London Road. "I was offered terms there and then," recalls Mario.

"I came to Peterborough straight from school through the youth opportunities scheme ... I don't think they would have taken me on otherwise."

"I was here for six months under the jobs scheme and after that the club agreed to keep me on as a non-contract player."

But his dazzling introduction to first team football has now persuaded 'Posh' to take Mario on full-time. "They have offered me professional terms and I expect to sign a contract very soon," he says.

"Now my aim is to establish myself as a regular in the side and help Peterborough get out of the Fourth Division."

"It's vitally important that we win promotion next year and I would love to be a part of it."

Above: Mario Ippolito takes the congratulations after his goalscoring debut.

HAPPY IN THE SHADOWS

McStay is Celtic's unsung hero

SCOTLAND'S 'golden boy' Charlie Nicholas has grabbed all the headlines at Celtic this season.

The 'Cannonball Kid' is the hero of Parkhead with his extraordinary goalscoring antics as Celtic bid for their third Premier Division title in a row.

And his performances this season have overshadowed the inspirational form of 19-year-old midfielder Paul McStay — Match Weekly's Scottish Premier Division 'Matchman of the Month' for February.

But young Paul isn't worried that Charlie has taken most of the limelight.

He says: "Charlie deserves all the praise because he is having a fabulous season. I'm just happy to be a regular member of the Celtic team. It is something I always dreamed about."

Paul picked up a Championship medal with Celtic last season even though he made only seven full appearances, but this term he has made a real impact.

"To get a medal you have to be involved in 20 games. I was substitute 13 times last term so I was lucky enough to qualify. I would love to pick one up this time by qualifying properly," says Paul, who has been an ever-present in the side this season.

Paul got his big break at the beginning of the campaign when Dom Sullivan and Davie Provan were sidelined through injury.

"The manager wanted a right-sided midfield player so I was the obvious choice," says the youngster, who joined Celtic straight from school.

"I have been really delighted with the way things have gone this season, but I couldn't have done it without the fantastic help of my team-mates — they have been great."

"Players like Murdo MacLeod are tremendous to play with and that makes my job so much easier. The older players take much of the pressure off me."

Paul was born in Hamilton, but Celtic were the only team he ever wanted to play for.

"I used to go to Parkhead as often as I could and my favourite player was Kenny Dalglish.

"English clubs, Nottingham Forest and Leeds were interested in signing me, but when I heard Celtic wanted me there was no choice to make — I jumped at the chance."

"I was quite clever at school, but football was the only thing that interested me. I was only concerned about making the grade as a player."

Although still in his teens, Paul has two medals to his credit. The latest came in December when he helped Celtic beat Rangers to win the Scottish League Cup.

And he's hopeful he can add to them this year ...

Celtic have been toppled from the top of the Premier Division by Aberdeen, but Paul says defiantly: "Everyone at Parkhead is confident we can retain the title."

"We were very disappointed to lose our place to Aberdeen, but we still have the upper hand. We are only one point behind with a game in hand."



Paul McStay — Match Weekly's Scottish Premier 'Matchman of the Month' for February.

GERMANS BID FOR '86 FINALS

WEST GERMANY are ready to step in with a shock late bid to stage the 1986 World Cup Finals... should the current applications from Brazil, Mexico, Canada and the USA fail.

Says Herman Neuberger, president of both the West German FA and FIFA's World Cup organising committee: "We are one of the few countries who could organise the tournament in the shorter time that would remain."

A decision on the venue will be made when the FIFA executive meet in Stockholm on May 20.

Meanwhile Mexico's new President, Señor Jose Lopez Portillo, has pledged himself to bring the World Cup to his country... at any cost. He has formed a special three-man committee with that sole aim in mind.



ITALIANS CHASE 'WONDER BOY'

TOP Italian clubs Cesena and Torino are chasing the signature of 22-year-old Werder Bremen striker Ruediger Voeller — currently West Germany's leading goalscorer.

But the boy who is tipped to become another Gerd Muller in the German national side says he wants to honour his contract which runs to the summer of 1984.

Former West German skipper Franz Beckenbauer pays Voeller this glowing tribute: "He has extraordinary life and pace. His style would blend fantastically with Littbarski and Rummennigge."

■ DYNAMO Minsk are the Russian Champions for the first time in club history. Runners-up were Dynamo Kiev and Spartak Moscow came third.

■ WORLD Cup skipper, Socrates, has overtaken Zico as the top paid player in Brazil. He now earns a reputed £4,500 a week... more than £600 a day!

■ FC KAISERSLAUTERN president Udo Sopp claims he has rejected offers of more than £1.25 million for striker Thomas Allofs — chased by both Turin and Barcelona.

He also claims the Spanish club offered to pay £250,000 just to 'borrow' the goalscorer star for four months in the absence of Diego Maradona!

■ FORMER Italian international Giorgio Chinaglia of New York Cosmos is thinking about a return to his old club, Lazio Roma, next season.

CLAUDIO CLATTERS 'WORK-SHY' IMPORTS

ITALIAN hardman Claudio Gentile has launched a scathing attack on his country's top imports, branding them "a waste of money".

Says the Juventus defender, the man who blotted out Zico, Maradona and Littbarski during the last World Cup Finals: "All the foreign players that come to Italy are a waste of money."

"We pay a great deal for them and they earn top money from their clubs, but they are not willing to pull their weight. They report non-existent injuries and are unwilling to work."

Earlier this season, Gentile's tackling came in for criticism from one such import — England's Trevor Francis, now playing for Italian side Sampdoria.

But Gentile's outburst is not just aimed at the former Manchester City and Nottingham Forest star.

It also takes in two of his Juventus team-mates — Poland's Zbigniew Boniek and Frenchman Michel Platini!

But it was the much-criticised French World Cup star who inspired a Juventus revival with a major role in a 3-0 victory over much-fancied Florence.

Platini, who is looking for a move to America at the end of his Italian contract, made vital goals for old favourites Roberto Bettega and Paolo Rossi.

Claudio Gentile: "All the foreign players that come to Italy are a waste of money."



JUVENTUS HOST TOURNAMENT

JUVENTUS are to be hosts for a close season club 'World Cup' tournament also involving Flamengo of Brazil, Penarol of Uruguay and Real Madrid of Spain.

AJAX CALL FOR EUROPE SUPER LEAGUE

■ AJAX chairman Ton Harmsen is calling for a Super League to cover the whole of Europe.

Says Harmsen: "We must think of the kind of games that would attract the public."

"Think what it would be like with Ajax playing Barcelona or Manchester United against Real Madrid."

"And with names like Cruyff, Maradona, Schuster and Littbarski on the same pitch, it would be sure to bring in the fans."

■ GREECE, England's next opponents in the European Championship, lost 2-1 in a friendly against East Germany in Dresden.

KIWIS CHIEF OUT

JOHN ADSHEAD, the man who led New Zealand's national soccer team to its finest hour, has quit.

As coach and manager he took the 'Kiwis' through 15 qualifying games to reach the World Cup Finals in Spain.

No official explanation was given but it is believed that Adshead was seeking a better deal for himself as national boss.

The reserve coach, Kevin Fallon, took temporary control following Adshead's unexpected departure.

Meanwhile New Zealand's rival nation, Australia, is already making a determined effort to ensure its national team qualifies for the 1986 World Cup Finals.

The Australian Football Association has put up £3 million in a bid to make the Finals for the second time in 12 years. The 'Aussies' reached the Finals in 1974 and are desperate for a repeat performance.

England are one of the teams going 'down under' this summer and former manager Ron Greenwood is going to be on hand to advise the Australians.

LEIGHTON James is convinced that First Division survival will herald the start of a new era for Sunderland.

The Welsh international told 'Match': "Over the past few seasons Sunderland have never really had a side which would do anything other than escape relegation."

"But if we can avoid the drop into the Second Division this time — which we are confident of doing — we could go onto great things next season."

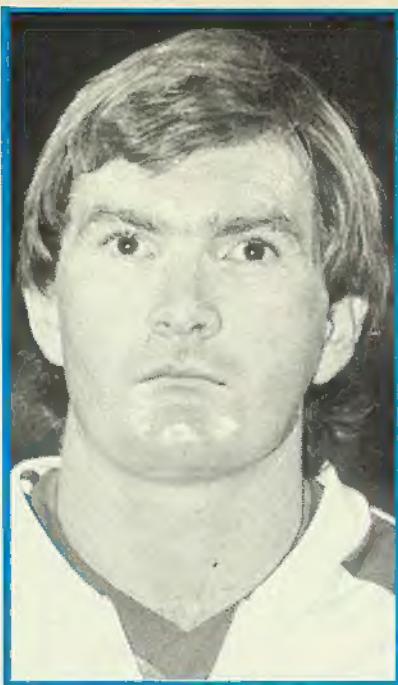
Leighton joined the North East club from fellow strugglers Swansea earlier this season. "When I came here we were third from bottom in the division," recalls the much-travelled player.

"But in recent weeks we seem to have got our game together and we've enjoyed an excellent run — hopefully that will continue."

Up until the first week in March, Sunderland had only lost one game since December 11, when they were beaten 3-0 away at West Brom.

With victories over European Champions Aston Villa, Coventry, Manchester City and Everton, they have lifted themselves clear of the relegation zone.

But Leighton realises survival is by no means guaranteed. "We are well aware that there is still a lot of work to do," he says.



Sunderland's Leighton James — happy with life in the North East and holds no grudges against Swansea manager John Toshack.

ROKER RALLY

JAMES PREDICTS NEW ERA FOR SUNDERLAND

"There are a lot of games left to play and with it being very tight at the bottom of the table anything can happen — but we are confident of staying up."

"Sunderland Football Club is a sleeping giant, but it won't be long before it stirs and Roker Park is alive again."

Leighton was snapped up for £50,000 by Sunderland manager Alan Durban just after Christmas. And the move has given the Welsh winger a new lease of life.

"I realised there was no longer a future for me at Swansea," he says. "John Toshack decided I was not a part of his plans and chose to let me go."

"I don't hold anything against John for what he did. He made a decision and I accepted it."

Swansea's poor form this season is in

stark contrast to the success the Welsh club has enjoyed over the last five years when they jumped from the Fourth to the First Division.

The bubble had to burst and it came as no real surprise to Leighton when it did this season. "It was inevitable that Swansea would have a poor season after five great years," he says.

"The side has not been playing well at all, but I hope their fortunes change and they avoid the drop. I have a lot of friends in Swansea and I should love them to stay in the First Division."

Disappointing

After a disappointing last few months at the Vetch Field, Leighton is enjoying his new life in the North East.

"I'm delighted with the way things have gone so far," he says. "The side has done really well and I've been pleased with my own form."

"There are a lot of young players here and teenagers Barry Venison and Nick Pickering have impressed me immensely — they both have very bright futures ahead of them."

"Gary Rowell and Stan Cummins, who are both playing well at the moment, are still only young but they have a wealth of first team experience behind them."

"The future looks good for Sunderland and if we can maintain First Division status this season it will give us a nice platform on which to build."

"We will then be able to start afresh next season, and make Sunderland a major force in Division One again."

TRACE THE TEAMS

solution from Page 16

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'Fulham watch out' — warns Newcastle's Chris Waddle.

ENGLAND v GREECE

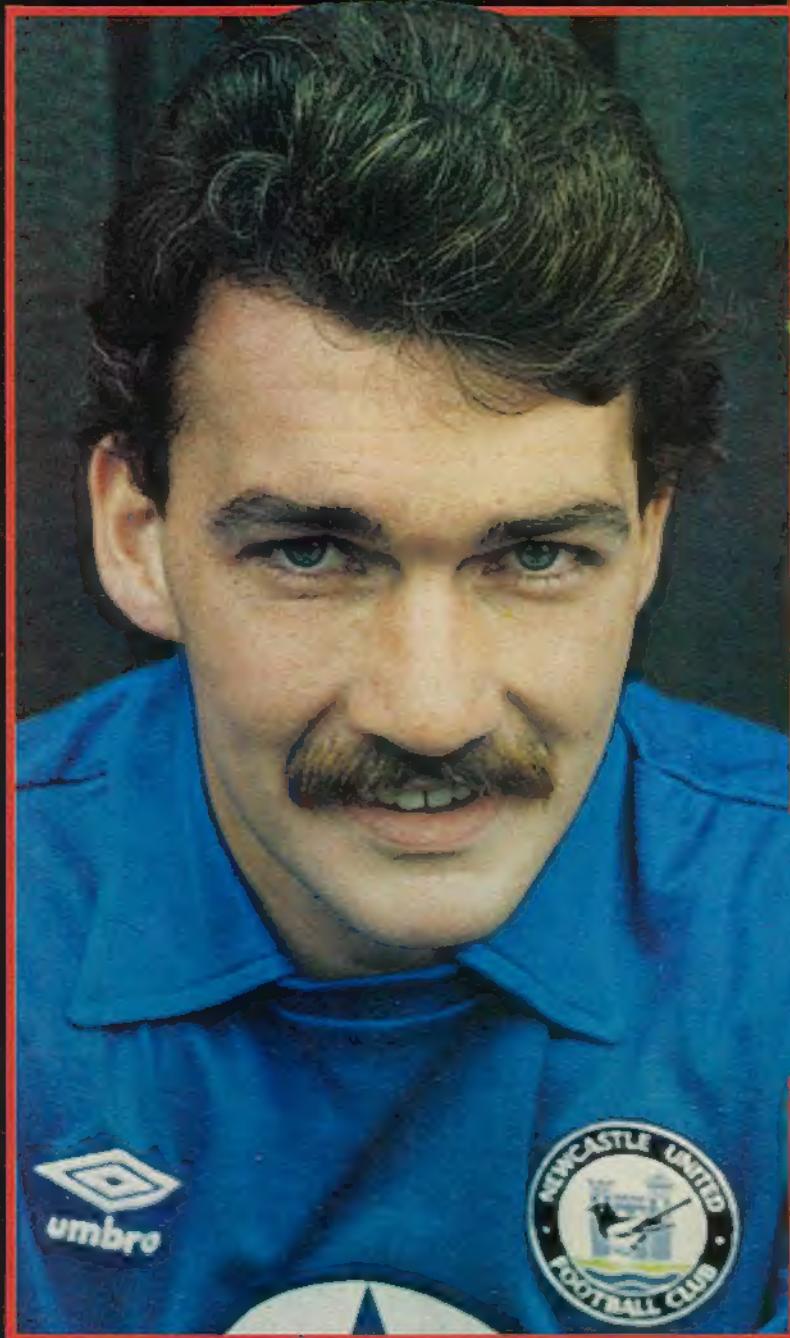
European Championship preview PAUL MARINER'S verdict.

'Where to now?' asks Gerry Daly.

Plus GLENN HODDLE writes just for you.

KEVIN CARR NEWCASTLE UNITED

FULL NAME: Kevin Carr.
BIRTHPLACE/DATE: Morpeth, November 6, 1958.
HEIGHT/WEIGHT: 6 ft. 2 ins./13 st, 4 lbs.
MARRIED: Yes, to Karen.
CHILDREN: None.
CAR: Mini Metro.
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Burnley.
TRADE BEFORE TURNING PRO: None as I joined Burnley from school.
CLUB NICKNAME: 'Carrsy'.
WORST EVER INJURY: Snapped ankle ligament in 1977.
FAVOURITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYER AND WHY: Pat Jennings — model of consistency for years.
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Burnley.
FAVOURITE FOREIGN PLAYER AND WHY: Diego Maradona — very exciting and does the unexpected.
BEST ALL-TIME BRITISH TEAM: Banks, Cohen, Charlton J., Moore, Cooper, Giles, Souness, Brady, Charlton R., Keegan, Best.
ALL-TIME INTERNATIONAL XI: Yashin (USSR), Kaltz, Beckenbauer (both W. Germany), Alberto (Brazil), Cooper (England), Socrates, Falcao, Jairzinho, Pele (all Brazil), Maradona (Argentina), Rummenigge (W. Germany).
FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND: Turf Moor.
FAVOURITE FOREIGN STADIUM AT WHICH YOU HAVE PLAYED: Haven't played anywhere really big.
BEST GOAL SCORED: None, but I hit the bar once with a goal kick!
BEST GOAL SEEN SCORED: Kevin Keegan's in the 2-1 win at Blackburn last September.
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Every opposing player.
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Home debut for Newcastle against Wolves in 1977.
OWN MAGIC MOMENT IN FOOTBALL: A last minute penalty save at Rotherham in 1981.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Relegation from the First Division in 1978.
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Rugby, cricket and golf.
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Music and winning.
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Cigarette smoke and losing.
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Not The Nine O'Clock News.
TV SHOW YOU ALWAYS SWITCH OFF: Emmerdale Farm.
FAVOURITE READING: Autobiographies.
FAVOURITE POP STAR: Joan Armatrading.
FAVOURITE FOOD: Any meat dish.
FAVOURITE DRINK: Tea.
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Corsica.
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Clint Eastwood and Noelle Gordon.
BEST FILM SEEN IN PAST YEAR: Who Dares Wins.
BEST FRIEND: Everyone at Newcastle.
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My Dad.



Above: Pat Jennings — Kevin's favourite League player, a model of consistency.



Below: Kevin Keegan — scorer of a great goal against Blackburn for Newcastle.

WHAT DON'T YOU LIKE ABOUT FOOTBALL: Injuries and hooligans.
SUPERSTITIONS: None really.
PRE-MATCH MEAL: Scrambled eggs.
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: None.
PERSONAL AMBITION: Be successful in business and have a happy family life.
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: Achieve promotion to the First Division and play for England.
CAREER AFTER PLAYING: Not sure, but maybe some kind of business.
PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE: Newcastle's Paul Ferris.

WHO WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET: Prince Charles.
ADVICE TO YOUNGSTERS: Listen and learn from older players.